FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 AUGUST 1984

Gulf Conflict

Iraqi warplanes attacked a very large maritime target south of Khark Island on 7 August, hitting the target "accurately and effectively," an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. INA later reported that an Iraqi missile had hit the Liberian-chartered tanker *Friendship L*, causing undetermined damage. This report was confirmed by a Lloyd's representative, according to INA. The attack followed Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan's warning, reported by INA, that Iraq would take new and more effective measures to tighten the siege of Khark Island. Ramadan was speaking in Ankara, where he also announced that Iraq and Turkey have agreed to construct a new oil pipeline with a capacity of over 500,000 barrels per day, according to INA.

Meanwhile, Iraqi RCC Deputy Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim continued his Gulf tour with brief visits to Qatar and the UAE, WAKH noted.

Red Sea, Gulf of Suez

Egypt has its own measures to protect the waters of the Gulf of Suez but cannot speak about them openly at the moment, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak stated in remarks reported by MENA. He indicated that Egypt is likely to request minesweeping helicopters from the United States. In a related statement reported by MENA, Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah stressed that the Gulf of Suez is safe for international shipping and that the explosions in the area were not caused by mines but by less powerful devices designed to cause confusion rather than to destroy ships. If a country is responsible for these incidents, he added, it is evidently not trying to block maritime routes but is retaliating for what is going on in the Gulf area.

Meanwhile, an Iranian press editorial cited by Tehran radio's Arabic service warned against linking the explosions in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea with the Iran-Iraq war, claiming that hostile sides such as the CIA are blaming Iran for the explosions in order to incite public opinion against the Islamic republic. Nevertheless, a commentary by the radio praised the planting of the mines by "a revolutionary Muslim organization" as another blow against "the arrogant powers," adding that not only Islamic land but also Muslim seas and waters are now forbidden to "the colonizers and the invaders."

Mubarak in Yugoslavia

President Mubarak began talks in Yugoslavia with his SFRY counterpart Veselin Djuranovic, MENA reported. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the discussions were held in an "extremely friendly atmosphere," the agency added.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni received Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, an envoy from Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, and families and Majlis deputies from Bakhtaran, Tehran radio reported. The clandestine Radio Iran contended that the meetings were arranged in order to dispel rumors pertaining to Khomeyni's illness.

Israel

Alignment leader Shim'on Peres and Likud leader Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met to discuss the establishment of a unity government, Jerusalem radio reported. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Peres said the talks were "very sincere" and were held in a "very friendly atmosphere." It was decided to continue the discussions on 9 August, according to the radio.

In a related development, the MAPAM faction of the Alignment failed to pass a resolution against the establishment of a national unity government with the Likud, Jerusalem television reported. Meanwhile, National Religious Party leader Yosef Burg rejected the Alignment's proposal to freeze settlement plans and make concessions to Jordan, Jerusalem radio noted.

Lebanon

Three IDF soldiers were wounded by a roadside bomb northeast of Tyre, IDF radio announced.

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Central Committee Statement Views USSR Initiative

LD061632 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1551 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 6 Aug (KUNA) — In a statement that it issued here this afternoon, the Fatah Central Committee described the new Soviet initiative for resolving the Middle East issue as "a preemptive attack against the expected aggressive initiatives from the Israeli Labor Party and from the U.S. Mideast policy that has a characteristic strategic alliance with the Zionist enemy."

The statement said: "The Central Committee considers that the announcement of the Soviet initiative and its discussion with concerned Arab parties does not stem from a political vacuum, and they are not restricted merely to voicing the principled Soviet belief in the necessity of working toward the achievement of a peace built on justice in the Middle East and the belief that the issue of Palestine and the national rights of its people are the center of this just peace. The Central Committee is convinced that the timing of the announcement of this initiative and its developed formulation and the consultations with the Arab parties and the PLO indicate that the friendly Soviet Union has heard the news that has started leaking from Europe and America about new initiatives which might be presented by the Israeli Labor Party, if it is to form the government in the Zionist entity, and that these would be sure of a European and American welcome, especially as the Labor Party, in spite of its Zionism and racialism, presents its idea in a clever manner which enables the pro-Zionist forces to avoid the embarrassment of the Likud's approach.

"The Soviet Union also knows about the information that has started to leak from America about new American ideas which respond to the Labor Party's presentations and which will be announced if the party succeeds in forming a government."

It added: "Therefore the coming stage will carry a new Zionist-American attack which will be characterized by a smooth appearance, but will be Zionist in essence."

PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum To Visit Moscow

LD061942 Kuwait KUNA in English 1757 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug 6 (KUNA) — Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Khalid al-Fahum, will arrive here Monday evening on an unannounced official visit to the Soviet Union, according to reliable sources here.

The sources said that the Palestinian parliament speaker will be heading a high-powered Palestinian delegation, but failed to name its composition.

However, they noted that the visit comes on the eve of the next PNC session, tentatively set for mid-September, and following the Soviet Union announcement of its initiative for a U.N. conference to settle the Mideast crisis.

The visit also comes at a time of intensive efforts to heal inter-Palestinian rifts, normalise relations between Fatah commando movement and Syria and bring an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

PLO Executive Committee Concludes Tunis Meeting

PM061141 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Aug 84 p 1

['Abd al-Bari 'Atwan report: "Organizations Given 2 Weeks To Abide by Agreement; Failing That, PNC To Be Unilaterally Convened"]

[Text] Tunis — The PLO Executive Committee has concluded its 2-day meeting under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, while maintaining strict secrecy about the next step it will take.

The principal subject on which the meeting centered was how to continue pursuing Palestinian political activities independently and without relying on the success or otherwise of the dialogue with the parties that have boycotted the dialogue, and how to prevent a deadlock occurring in Palestinian activities.

It appears that the principal objective of the PLO Executive Committee meeting after 4 months of waiting is Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] desire to underline the legitimacy and the continuity of the Executive Committee's leadership of the PLO and the Palestinian people and to give the impression that the legitimate Palestinian institutions are still functioning despite all that is being said about inter-Palestinian differences and the faltering of talks and dialogue between the Palestinian organizations.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the PLO leadership is currently under pressure from the Soviet Union, Algeria, and Aden not to convene a PNC meeting, but to wait and show more patience in the dialogue for reconciliation with the other organizations, because the taking of such a unilateral action would cause a deep rift in Palestinian ranks and embarrass the allies of the resistance, the consequences of which are difficult to predict.

Despite the silence maintained by Palestinian officials on the Executive Committee, whose meetings were attended only by the independent members and Fatah members, it is clear that there is concern, irritation, and impatience.

The reason for this is the failure to reach agreement at the recent meetings held in Algiers and attended by Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] on behalf of Fatah and George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah on behalf of the Democratic Alliance.

These meetings discussed the convening of a plenary dialogue session and the PNC meeting.

It can be said that it has been decided to wait and to give the other parties until no later than 15 August to abide by the Algiers and Aden agreements.

Failing that, the PNC will be unilaterally convened [by the PLO].

Algeria is currently attempting to bring about the success of the dialogue between the Palestinian organizations and Fatah and between the PLO and Syria, particularly since optimism over the restoration of normal relations between Syria and the PLO leadership after Faruq Qaddumi's visit to Damascus has dissipated.

Dissidents Suspend Palestinian Publications

JN060923 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 6 Aug 84 p 18

[Text] Damascus, PETRA — A decision was made to suspend publication of the *ATH-THAWRAH AL-FILISTINIYAH* magazine and the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, bulletin which were published by Nimr Salih, alias Abu Salih, following his differences with the Fatah dissident command. All offices belonging to him and his group were handed over to the dissident command. It is worth noting that the dissidents recently decided to discharge both Abu Salih and Musa 'Awad, alias Abu Akram, from the dissident command.

Palestinian Spokesman on Israeli Raids

JN031832 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] A Palestinian military spokesman yesterday stated the following: The aggression by the Zionist enemy's aircraft and gunboats against Nahr al-Barid refugee camp and Tripoli wounded many Palestinian and Lebanese citizens and caused severe property damage. The spokesman indicated that the Palestinian revolution warns of the seriousness of the policy of terror and aggression against our people, which is aimed at rescuing the Zionist society from its current dilemma. Moreover, the Palestinian revolution will not allow the enemy's response to our heroes' operations behind its lines to be directed against our people in the refugee camps, whether in 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, Al-Barid, or Al-Baddawi.

The spokesman affirmed that the militias alone exchanged fire with the enemy gunboats forcing them to retreat. The spokesman urged the international community to shoulder its responsibilities in ending this official, organized Zionist terrorism against our unarmed people and citizens.

Reportage on Palestinian-Lebanese Resistance Efforts

Operations in South Reported

JN031822 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men are escalating their heroic operations in southern Lebanon against the men and equipment of the Zionist forces of invasion and the agent militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon and inflicting on them further losses in life and equipment. This morning, a resistance group launched a machine gun and rocket attack against a military position belonging to the so-called agent army of southern Lebanon in Jwayya, east of Sidon, in occupied southern Lebanon. Many agent militia elements were killed in the attack.

Another resistence group launched a machine gun and rocket attack against a Zionist military patrol that came to assist the agent militias in the aforementioned military postion. The resistance group engaged the Zionist patrol for 30 minutes. Many Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two operations but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces besieged Jwayya and neighboring villages, carried out an extensive search campaign, and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of searching for the resistance men.

Yesterday, another resistance group launched a machine gun and hand grenade attack against a Zionist military patrol, comprising two jeeps and a personnel carrier, in the center of An-Nabatiyah, 23 km southeast of Sidon in occupied southern Lebanon. A large number of Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces cordoned off the area, carried out an extensive campaign search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of searching for the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

Lahd Position Attacked

JN041732 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men attacked a military position belonging to the so-called agent forces of the army of southern Lebanon in Sidon in occupied Lebanon last night. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and rockets, killed or wounded several agent soldiers and scored direct hits on the military position. A spokesman for the Zionist invasion forces admitted this daring attack. However, he declined to disclose his losses. The spokesman added that his forces helped the forces of agent Antoine Lahd to search for the resistance men, but the search was in vain.

1 Israeli Soldier Killed

JN061716 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The Palestinian-Lebanese national resistance men have set off a remote-controlled, highly explosive charge under a Zionist military patrol in 'Amiq in eastern Lebanon. Two Zionist military vehicles were completely destroyed and all of the occupants were killed or wounded. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation, but claimed that only one Zionist soldier was killed and two others were wounded in the attack. He said his forces besieged the town and searched for the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

3 Operations Reported

JN051736 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men have escalated their heroic operations against the Zionist invasion forces' personnel and vehicles in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on them.

Last night a resistance group attacked a Zionist military position in Tallat Mar Ilyas, east of Sidon, the capital of southern Lebanon. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and hand grenades, killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. Another group of the resistance men attacked a Zionist military patrol in Tyre yesterday. The attack destroyed two Zionist military vehicles and killed or wounded all of their occupants. A third group of resistance men yesterday detonated a highly explosive remote-controlled charge while a Zionist military patrol was passing Sidon's eastern entrance on the Jazzin-Sidon road. The explosion destroyed two Zionist jeeps and killed or wounded their occupants.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the three operations, but, as usual, declined to disclose losses. The spokesman said that his forces cordoned off the scenes of the three operations, launched a large-scale campaign, and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of searching for the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

Ammunition Depot Blown Up Near Qiryat Shemona

JN031756 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] A group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland set off a high explosive charge at a Zionist occupation forces' ammunition depot in the Qiryat Shemona settlement in the upper Galilee in occupied Palestine. Many Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded and massive damage was caused by the explosion. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but, as usual, did not disclose his losses. He said that the explosion created panic among the Zionist settlers.

Arabs Receive Death Threats From Zionist Group

GF041719 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Reports received from occupied Palestine today confirm that scores of local council heads and Islamic figures in the Galilee villages received death threats during the past 2 weeks sent to them by registered mail and signed by Kahana's organization of extreme racial terrorism and his facist gang. It is worth noting that it was this very same organization which sent similar threat messages to Egyptian personalities at the start of this year, threatening to phisically liquidate them if they continued to issue statements hostile to the Zionist entity.

Arab League's Klibi Receives Soviet Charge

LD061752 Kuwait KUNA in English 1713 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, Aug 6 (KUNA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi received Monday the charge d'affaires at the Soviet Embassy here. Arab League sources said the Soviet diplomat handed Klibi a copy of the Soviet peace proposal on the Middle East.

Nigeria's Buhari Affirms Commitment to OPEC

LD061602 Vienna OPECNA in English 1420 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, 6 Aug. 874 (OPECNA) — The Nigerian head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has emphasized the country's total commitment to, and solidarity with, OPEC. He told an OPEC delegation here today: "Nigeria will not do anything to throw a spanner in your works."

Buhari was receiving Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, OPEC conference president and Libyan oil secretary, and Dr Subroto, Indonesian minister of mines and energy.

They were accompanied by Prof Tam David-West, Nigerian minister of petroleum and energy.

Buharai said Nigeria's support for OPEC should never be in doubt, declaring: "We have proved it since we came to office and we will continue to adhere to OPEC decisions."

Urging other OPEC countries to observe their production quotas to stabilize the oil market, he said: "OPEC is the only organization of the Third World to face the industrialized countries and it is in our interest to ensure its strength."

However, Buhari pointed out that while OPEC was meeting its responsibilities, the attitude of non-OPEC countries left much to be desired. "They, too, must shoulder their responsibility," he asserted.

He assured OPEC that despite Nigeria's problems, the country would not shirk its responsibility towards the organization, the Third World and the world economy at large.

Al-Maqhur and Subroto had earlier briefed the Nigerian head of state on the purpose of their tour, which was to seek the commitment of all OPEC member governments to adhere to OPEC decisions and stabilize the oil market.

Al-Maqhur said OPEC was a unique organization in relations between developed and developing countries and it would "go from strength to strength."

He said the role played by Nigeria at the last OPEC conference was also unique.

"For the first time in OPEC history, an OPEC member country brought its problem to the family of OPEC to be solved within the family. It did not go outside OPEC. This is very significant and it brings a whole new dimension to the organization," he pointed out.

Al-Maqhur and Subroto leave Lagos this afternoon for Libreville, Gabon, in continuation of their tour, which has already taken them to the United Arab Emirates, where the country's president, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan assured OPEC of support, adherence to its decisions and solidarity with the organization.

Two other delegations will undertake tours of oil producing countries.

One, headed by Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resources, will visit OPEC countries of the Gulf, Indonesia and Libya this week. Its others are Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, Venezuelan minister of energy and mines — who left Caracas Sunday — and Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries.

The other delegation, headed by Shaykh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabian minister of petroleum and mineral resouces, will visit non-OPEC producers.

The OPEC delegation headed by Al-Maqhur will be joined by Prof, Tam David-West when it visits OPEC Latin American countries in the first week of September.

BAHRAIN

Joint Statement Issued on Visit of Iraq's Ibrahim

GF061900 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Joint statement issued on the 5-6 August visit of Iraqi RCC Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim to the State of Bahrain in Manama on 6 August]

[Text] At the invitation of Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister of the State of Bahrain, Iraqi RCC Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim paid an official visit to the State of Bahrain from 5 to 6 August. 'Izzat was accompanied by an official delegation that consisted of Hamid 'Alwan al-Juburi, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim al-Asadi, minister of transport and communications; and a number of responsible officials. Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparant and commander in chief of Bahrain Defense Force; ministers of the State of Bahrain; and the Iraqi ambassador to Bahrain were at the forefront of those who received the delegation at the airport.

His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received the Iraqi delegation at Al-Qudaybiyah Palace. The Bahraini amir welcomed the Iraqi RCC vice president and the delegation accompanying him and stressed the fraternal bonds between Bahrain and Iraq and the importance of this visit which is being made during fatal times in our Arab nation. The Iraqi RCC vice president then explained to His Highness the amir the Iraqi view on the current developments in the Arab arena and the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war and Iraq's continuous readiness to defend its security and its territorial integrity against any aggression.

At the end of the meeting, 'Izzat Ibrahim expressed appreciation for the sincere fraternal positions adopted by Bahrain in support of the just Iraqi stance in defending its land, sovereignty, and dignity. Attending the meeting were Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparant and commander in chief of Bahrain Defense Force; and a number of ministers.

In the evening of the same day, talks were held between the Bahraini side, led by Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and the Iraqi side, led by Iraqi RCC Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim. Participating in the talks on the Bahraini side were Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, interior minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, transport minister Ibrahim Humaydan, and finance and national economy minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim. The Iraqi side included Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim, minister of transport and communications and a number of officials.

The talks centered on the means of consolidating the fraternal relations between the two countries. They also focused on a number of issues related to the common Arab action and the means of consolidating it so that it can serve the interests of the Arab nation and develop its capabilities in the face of the Zionist designs aimed at undermining the legitimate Arab rights in Palestine and in the other occupied Arab territories. Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah appreciated Iraq's constant positions in support of the Arab issues and Iraq's response to all the good efforts exerted to put an end to war between Iraq and Iran.

The Iraqi RCC vice president invited his brother prime minister, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, to visit his second country, Iraq. His Highness accepted the invitation and promised to make the visit on a date that will be determined later.

Briefs

Outgoing Belgian Envoy — Manama, 4 Aug (WAKH) — The amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received in Manama today, the Belgian ambassador to Bahrain, Pieter Berghs, at the conclusion of his tour. [Excerpt] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 4 Aug 84 GF]

KUWAIT

Army Officer Denies Units on Maximum Alert

LD071102 Kuwait KUNA in English 1026 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 7 (KUNA) — The commander of a key Kuwaiti brigade was quoted Tuesday as denying rumours that the Army's forward units had been put on maximum alert. In an interview with the daily *AL-ANBA'*, Brigadier ar-Rassam said that only early warning units had been put on alert, while the rest of the Army's forward units had been ordered into a state of preparation.

Ar-Rassam commands the Kuwaiti Army's Sixth Brigade, which guards the country's northeastern borders and neighbouring islands, the nearest point in Kuwait to the Gulf war battlefront. The brigadier affirmed that while there was a big difference between the two military states, exercises had shown that forward units could, if the need arose, be ready for action within two minutes of being alerted.

Backed up by a sophisticated communications system and constant aerial reconniassance by the Kuwait Air Force, forward units had adequate intelligence about movements near the Kuwaiti border to respond to developments, he said. Responding to a question about the (?proximity of the) Iraq-Iran war to Kuwaiti borders Ar-Rassam affirmed that while forward units had the authority to fire upon unidentified intruders, this was in practice "out of the question" under the present circumstances.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Foreign Minister's Statements

GF051624 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 5 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 5 Aug (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* commented on the recent statements of

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and information, in which he referred to Kuwait's policy on domestic, Arab and international levels. The paper said that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad has reaffirmed that in its international relations, Kuwait adheres to balance and abides by real neutrality. He said that although Kuwait has established diplomatic, economic, and military relations with the Soviet Union this has not affected its relations with the West and other countries.

The paper said that the senior Kuwaiti diplomats have dotted all the "i's" regarding Kuwaiti arms purchases from the Soviet Union and that the Western media has stirred up a false uproar as if it wanted Kuwait to appear as a country which is a satellite of the West that has dared to deal with the Soviet Union.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM said that through insinuations on official Western levels, the Western media desired to picture the Kuwaiti stand as a challenge to the West whereas — as was stated by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad — Kuwait was practicing its sovereignty and traditional and clear policy, which is removed from pressures and blackmail.

The paper praised Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad's call for Arab solidarity through establishing a strategic guarantee for this solidarity that has real and effective bases which give positive results.

Central Bank Governor Interviewed on Economy

LD061447 Kuwait KUNA in English 1009 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 6 (KUNA) — "Kuwait has opted for a market-oriented economy which guarantees the freedom of capital movement with the rest of the world", the Central Bank's chief executive said Monday. In an exclusive interview with KUNA, the bank's governor, 'Abd al-Wahab at-Tammar said, ("The choice) is based on a conviction of the appropriateness of such a system for the economy and on the ability of Kuwait to meet her obligations. The latter point is based on the comfortable size of our foreign reserves and on the ability of Kuwait to generate more such reserves through oil exports.

On the other hand, At-Tammar said, the outflow of surplus funds is desirable in an economy such as Kuwait's where national savings exceed the absorptive potential of domestic investment outlets. In this sense capital outflow could act as a safety valve that would moderate inflationary pressures on domestic prices and asset values, he pointed.

In the course of his extensive interview, At-Tammar explored the performance of Kuwait's financial sector, the effects of recent developments in the dollar exchange rate, the liquidity situation and the Central Bank operations. As for the volume of capital movement, At-Tammar said during 1983, preliminary estimates indicate that the outflow reached KD.870 million.

Of these, KD.264 million were transfered by residents to their families overseas, KD.198 million autonomous official transfers and KD.408 million were non-monetary capita transfers by some public institutions, investment companies and banks. These figures, he said, do not include the transfers that are done directly by the private sector, on which no data are available at this time.

As for recent capital movements, At-Tammar pointed, "The Central Bank considers these to be normal inflows and outflows that reflect market conditions. In fact, the volume of Central Bank sales of foreign currency to the banks can be used as an indicator of this trend, and the data on this indicate that capital movement has followed a normal trend."

During the year ending on June 30,1984, At-Tammar told KUNA, Central Bank net sales of foreign currency to banks reached 13 billion dollars against 12 billion for the preceding year. However, the Central Bank does not wish to see "our national savings used in currency speculation, and has beeen careful to safeguard the use of the public (depositors) funds so that they are not subjected to the risks of undue speculative activity in uncertain foreign currency markets", At-Tammar stressed. This consideration, he added, has motivated the Central Bank to declare a financial rate for the kd [Kuwait dinar] which does not enjoy the stability of the official kd. Rate that is used (?to meet) the real needs of the national economy, he pointed.

Asked by KUNA to assess the performance of Kuwait's financial sector, the governor asserted that this sector started developing 40 years ago, however it has undergone remarkable changes during its years in terms of size, diversity of type, and diversity of activities of its institutions. These developments, At-Tammar said, have always been responsive to the need [words indistinct] economy, but the sector has also gained a good international reputation. The financial sector, by nature, is a service sector, and its importance from the ability to cater to the needs of society At-Tammer pointed.

Asked on the progress of the "Gulf dinar" issue, At-Tammar said Article 22 of the unified economic agreement for the GGC Council stipulates that currency unification is one of the goals which the member states strive to achieve. Accordingly, he added, the central banks and monetary authorities of the region have been studying the appropriate means of achieving this goal. This topic is one of the major items on the agenda of the governors of these bodies, he added.

Asked if Kuwait intends to issue kd-denominated travellers cheques, the CBK chief executive said (?issuing) travelers cheques is a purely commercial enterprise to be decided upon [by] the financial institutions. Accordingly, the issue of kd travellers cheques is primarily up to the Kuwait private financial institutions, he said.

Replying to a KUNA question on effects of recent developments in the dollar exchange rate and interest rates on the domestic economy in general and the kd in particular, At-Tammar said currency exchange rates are "two major variables in the relationship between open market economics." The degree of influence of these variables for Kuwait is tempered by the unique characteristics of the Kuwaiti economy. One such important characteristic is that our exports are denominated in U.S. dollars, and the other one is that the domestic investment base is too narrow to absorb the national savings, he said.

The first point implies that changes in the dollar exchange rate directly effects the purchasing power of Kuwait's exports in terms of other currencies. However, the fiscal policy of Kuwait has succeeded so far in protecting the country's purchasing power through official absorption of the fluctuations in the dollar value of these exports, i.e. this policy tends to isolate the domestic economy from the direct effect of currency instability, moreover, the exchange rate and lending rates of the kd are managed with a view toward the needs of the domestic economy, he added.

The main goal here is to maintain an appropriate purchasing power for the dinar vis-a-vis the currencies of the countries which are most important in our trade At-Tammar said. Hence, our policy of exchange rate determination has been based on a basket of the most important currencies in Kuwait's trade and financial relations with the rest of the world. As a result, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, the kd exchange rates ranged from a depreciation of 0.5 percent vs. the dollar to an appreciation of 10 percent vs. the French franc. On average, the kd appreciated by 4.5 percent against twenty major currencies, i.e. the kd could purchase 4.5 percent more of the basket of imports denominated on these 20 currencies, he added.

Asked on the liquidity and money supply situation, At-Tammar said liquidity can be defined as the total means of payment available to society,and it can be categorized into different types bsed on the degree of liquidity. The broadest definition used in Kuwait is domestic liquidity which consists of money and quasi-money, At-Tammar noted. Money includes currency in circulation outside bans and kd current and demand deposits, while quasi money is defined to include kd savings time deposits and certificates of deposit held by the public in addition to deposits in all types of foreign currencies.

The Central Bank has the dominant role in supervising liquidity and ensuring that it meets the actual needs of the national economy. The bank has various tools of policy at its disposal that help it to adjust the level of liquidity and direct it toward the targets of monetary policy. In its daily operations with the banks, the Central Bankl can use such tools of expansionary policy as rediscounts of commercial paper, direct deposits with banks, loans, and currency swaps. The main tools used to contract liquidity are CBK bills and adjustments of legal ratios which banks must observe, he added.

Asked if the Central [Bank] has raised the rate of interest quoted between domestic banks, At-Tammar said the interbank rate is one of three types of interest rates used in financial markets. The other two are the rate on deposits with financial institutions and lending rates. The Central Bank, he stressed, directly controls the lending rate through a schedule of [word indistinct] rates based on the purpose of each loan, the availability of collateral, and maturity. The maximum legal lending rate is ten percent, At-Tammar said, adding, however, the Central Bank does not impose restrictions on deposits or interbank rates.

OMAN

Official Receives Sudanese Foreign Minister

GF061340 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battashi, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, received at his office this morning Sudanese Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman and members of the Sudanese delegation currently visiting the country. During the meeting, bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them in all sectors was discussed in addition to the current Arab situation. The meeting was attended by the Sudanese ambassador to the Sultanate and Bashir ibn Musalam ibn Faraj, assistant director of Arab bilateral relations affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

QATAR

Amir Receives Iraq's 'Izzat Ibrahim, Saddam Message

GF061126 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] His Highness Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, received in his office at Ad-Dawhah Palace at 1000 today 'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi RCC vice chairman, who arrived earlier today in Doha at the head of a high-ranking delegation on a visit to the state of Qatar.

The Iraqi delegation comprises: Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim al-Asadi, minister of transportation and communications; 'Abd al-Mun'im 'Alwan, under secretary at the ministry of oil; and other officials.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information; and Khalid 'Uthman ar-Rawi, Iraqi ambassador in Doha, attended.

QNA has learned that the amir received a verbal message from his brother Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi president. The message deals with developments in the Gulf region in particular and the Arab world in general, as well as bilateral relations and ways of developing and strengthening them in all fields.

Press Statement Issued

GF061959 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Press statement on the visit of Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim to Qatar issued in Doha on 6 August]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister, His Excellency Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi RCC vice chairman, paid an official 1-day visit to the State of Qatar on 6 August 1984. His Excellency Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi RCC vice chairman, briefed His Highness the amir on the developments in the Iraq-

Iran war and on the importance of exchanging views on issues of mutual interest to confront the threats to the Gulf region in particular, and the Arab and Islamic nations in general.

His Excellency Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim pointed out the improvement in the preparedness of Iraq and its Armed Forces to confront aggression and safeguard the Arab nation and its legitimate rights to its land, security, and stability.

The two sides reviewed the current Arab and international situation, particularly the situation in the Arab Gulf region. They affirmed their declared stand toward the Palestinian issue and their support for the legitimate right of the Arab Palestinian people to return to their homeland and to have self-determination.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the country, expressed his understanding of Iraq's position and praised its stance which is represented in accepting all the initiatives to end the war and stop the bloodshed between the two Muslim neighbors, Iraq and Iran.

His Excellency the guest invited the heir apparent and defense minister to visit the Republic of Iraq. His Highness accepted the invitation and promised to make a visit, provided that the date will be fixed later.

AR-RAYAH on Next Israeli Government

GF060926 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 6 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 6 Aug (WAKH) — Today's Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH* says that with the entrustment of Shi'mon Peres to be the prime minister of the next enemy government, we Arabs must prepare for a new kind of war to confront the Zionist snake which, while appearing to have a soft skin, still contains fatal venom. The paper adds that the Israeli Labor Party and its allies will continue to follow the policy of the current Likud government and execute what the Likud failed to execute by invoking the political priorities of the Israeli Labor Party which Peres announced yesterday as he accepted Hayim Herzog's entrustment to form the new Cabinet.

The paper points out that these announced priorities spell the continuation of the Zionist coerciveness of southern Lebanon to attain the partitioning of the Lebanese land and people on the one hand, and to continue chasing the Palestinians on the other. This also spells the continuation of the policy of dealing with other Arab countries in isolation through unilateral or partial solutions to fraudulently tackle the just and legitimate Palestinian rights. This makes it easier for the Zionist enemy to deal with the Palestinian people and their identity and rights.

Briefs

New Sudanese Envoy — Doha, 4 Aug (WAKH) — Qatari Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani received today the new Sudanese ambassador to Qatar, Ahmad at-Tayyib al-Kurdufani, who presented his credentials. [Excerpt] [Manama Wakh in Arabic 1025 GMT 4 Aug 84 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

Cabinet Discuss Red Sea Mines, Approves Ireland Pact

LD062209 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 6 Aug (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense, and inspector general, presided over a meeting of the Council of Ministers this evening.

Following the meeting His Excellency Faysal ibn 'Abd al-Aziz al-Hujaylan, minister of state, member of the Cabinet, and acting information minister, made a statement to the press in which he said that the Cabinet reviewed the most important international events and discussed the important developments in our region, particularly the incidents to which some ships were subjected in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea. He added that the Cabinet studied the items on its agenda and adopted the following decisions: The Cabinet approved a request by the foreign minister for the approval of economic and technical agreement between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of Ireland.

AR-RIYAD Comments on Soviet Middle East Proposal

GF031632 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 2 Aug 84 p 1

[Editorial: "From the U.S. Elections to the Soviet Maneuvers"]

[Excerpts] It is true that the new Soviet plan on the Middle East crisis is not new, since it was preceded by the ideas proposed by former Soviet President Brezhnev; nor does it offer anything new as far as its content is concerned, because all the other earlier plans contained the same proposals. But its timing and introduction at this time is significant.

As far as events are concerned, the recession in the region and the dependence of resolving its crises on the results of the Israeli and U.S. elections necessitated an international move that Europe itself was unable to effect, and thus the Soviet Union carried out this political maneuver. It was nothing new that Westerners in commenting on the Soviet proposal, described it as a Soviet attempt to get involved in events in the region and to participate in manipulating its crises.

This is true, but has the unilateral U.S. plan offered to the region just peace or a strong deterrence to the Israeli practices in southern Lebanon?

The United States has its interests and friendships in the Arab world, and the Arabs don't wish their national and economic identities to be swept away by the Soviets as is the situation in Eastern Europe. This matter necessitates that the U.S. vision of the future of the conflict in the region should be based on just and deterrent stands after the region's crisis has been exploited in political maneuvers and election bargaining.

Labor, Likud Called 'Faces of Same Coin'

GF061531 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Aug 84

["News analysis" by 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hazza']

[Excerpts] Shim'on Peres is expected to begin his consultations today to form the new Israeli Government after he was asked by head of the Israeli entity, Hayim Herzog, yesterday to carry out this task. Peres was asked to form the new government after consultations Herzog held with the group of parties which won Knesset seats during the elections last month.

Shim'on Peres began consultations today with officials of the 13 parties which won Knesset seats in the recent Israeli elections. In any case, whether Shim'on Peres succeeds in forming the Israeli Government or whether this task will be assigned again to Yitzhaq Shamir, both terrorists are faces of the same coin and share the characteristic of terrorism, oppression, wars, and expansion at the expense of others. Based on the facts about the Labor Party drawn from its disgraceful past, the policy of the Labor Party, if it wins, will be a continuation of that of the Likud. The most important part of the Labor Party's policy, is its support for the settlement policy in the West Bank, the Jerusalem suburbs, and the Golan Heights, and its strong opposition to the establishment of the Palestinian state under the pretext that such a state will prolong the conflict and the [word indistinct] of the Zionist entity, and therefore threaten what they call Israel's security. Contrary to what has been piblished about the Labor Party and its policy of government, the Peres government — though it tries to show some false leniency in its stands — conceals its aggression and treachery against the Arab citizens inside and outside occupied territories.

Therefore, doubts increase to the edge of truth that the Labor Party, led by Shim'on Peres, will not bring anything new for the Palestinian cause and the Arab citizens in occupied Palestine. Furthermore, it will undoubtedly fail to overcome the long-time economic crisis in the Israeli entity, which was aggravated when inflation reached 400 percent.

In view of all this, the Arab countries should continue their march for solidarity and strengthen this solidarity with all means because this is the only way for them to realize their goals and defeat their enemy. At the same time, facts and experience show that it is impossible to pin the slightest hope on any official who will head the government in the Zionist entity because although there are many officials in that entity, and although their parties, policies, and inclinations vary, one fact remains: They all support the policy of illegitimate occupation of the Arab territories, establishing more settlements, and rejecting the Palestinian state. This means that the Israeli policy is consistent in accurately implementing the oil protocols of Zion.

UAE

Iraq's 'Izzat Ibrahim Arrives in Abu Dhabi

GF061648 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 6 Aug (WAM) — 'Izzat Ibrahim, deputy chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) arrived here this evening from Doha, Qatar, at the head of a delegation on a brief visit to the UAE, as part of Gulf tour. Ibrahim was received at the airport by Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister, and Ahmad Tayis Abdallah, Iraqi charge d'affairs to the UAE. He is accompanied by a number of Iraqi officials.

President Receives 'Izzat Ibrahim

GF061950 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1930 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Aug (WAKH) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received in Abu Dhabi this evening Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, who is currently visiting the UAE. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations and means of developing and consolidating them to serve the Arab nation's interests, the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the situation in the Arab region, especially in the Arabian Gulf region.

Attending the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan and a number of ministers and senior officials in the UAE.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan later held a closed meeting with 'Izzat Ibrahim, which was attended by UAE Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan.

Ibrahim Departs for Muscat

GF070808 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0715 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Aug (WAM) — Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and his accompanying delegation left the UAE today for Muscat after concluding a brief visit to the UAE within the framework of a tour of a number of Gulf countries. He was seen off by Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, a number of ministers, and the Iraqi charge d'affaires in the UAE Ahmad Tayis 'Abdallah.

Ibrahim had conveyed a message from Iraqi President His Excellency Saddam Husayn to His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan pertaining to bilateral relations in addition to current developments in the Gulf and Arab regions. His visit covered Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar.

AL-BAYAN Calls Suez Mines 'International Plot'

GF061338 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0710 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Dubayy, 6 Aug (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today said editorially that "the issue of the sea mines planted in the Red Sea cannot be merely regarded as a sabotage act only aimed at international navigation in this waterway. This should be considered part of an international plot against the Arab homeland in general and against the Gulf oil region in particular." The paper pointed out that this act was neither unilateral nor was it carried out by a group of people not firmly associated with a country that has huge capabilities and large-scale aggressive intentions.

In conclusion, *AL-BAYAN* said that the only way to foil the plot, to contain the planting of the mines, and to neutralize their effect is through settling the Gulf war peacefully, and making a radical effort to settle Arab differences. The Arab atmosphere will then be set for an Arab-Islamic solidarity capable of confronting and defeating international plots.

AL-BAYAN Comments on U.S. Aid to Israel

GF040828 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 4 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 4 Aug (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-BAYAN* says that Arab relations with the United States require a serious pause. The paper expresses surprise over the U.S. Administration's thinking that it can keep its credibility and interests in the Arab homeland while showing only hostility toward the Arabs. *AL-BAYAN* refers to the decision by the U.S. Congress Budget Committee to allocate aid totaling $2.6 billion to the Zionist entity for 1985 and says: The Arabs have the right to consider this massive aid to the Israeli enemy a direct aggression against them and their interests.

AL-BAYAN notes that this aid not only helps the Zionist entity to save its deteriorating economy but also helps it to expand the current settlements, build new settlements in Arab lands, complete the Judaization of the West Bank, Jerusalem, Gaza, and Golan, perpetuate its occupation of southern Lebanon and Tabah and its usurpation of the Palestinian homeland, and carry out new adventures of aggression and other activities which keep the region tense and threaten world peace. *AL-BAYAN* concludes its editorial saying that U.S. generosity toward Israel is the main factor behind all the crimes committed by the Zionist enemy. The U.S. bias toward Israel is not just through encouragement but even comes to involvement.

President Receives Greetings From Al-Qadhdhafi

GF061342 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the country, received a congratulatory cable from Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of his accession of power in Abu Dhabi.

Briefs

UAE Envoy to Bangladesh — UAE President, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, has issued a federal decree appointing Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim at-Tamimi as minister plenipotentiary and ambassador extraordinary to Bangladesh. Bangladesh has welcomed his nomination. [Text] [Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 4 Aug 84 GF]

PDRY

YAR Delegation Arrives for Joint Committee Meeting

GF061302 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The delegation of the northern part of the homeland at the Joint Ministerial Council led by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee in the northern part of the homeland, arrived in Aden today. The delegation will participate in the second session of the Joint Ministerial Council scheduled to convene in Aden this evening under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani.

Chairman Addresses Joint Council

GF062039 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Speech delivered by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, at the opening of the second session of the Joint Ministerial Council in Aden on 6 August — recorded]

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, brothers, members of the side from the northern part of the homeland. We meet again today to continue our march toward unity on which we have taken positive steps in recent years. The most prominent achievements have been the formation of the Yemeni Supreme Council and the holding of its two sessions. This has strengthened the cooperation and coordination between the two parts on the issues of unity. This makes us more optimistic in our ability to take new strides toward the great objective for our Yemeni people, which is the reestablishment of Yemeni unity on peaceful and democratic principles.

We stress again our eagerness to implement any unity agreement which serves this honorable and noble objective. We must remove all the obstacles from the path of implementation. We must discuss and assess with a nationalistic and responsible spirit the agreements that have already been made. We must find more ways to cooperate and coordinate in the fields of economic integration, trade exchange, and movement of people between the two parts. We must coordinate the Yemeni stand on national issues and on the developments in the Arab and international situations, in the interest of our Yemeni people and in light of the principles and the aims of the glorious 26 September and 14 October Revolutions.

In this respect, we wish to refer to our joint responsibility to defend the national sovereignty of our people on their regional territories, airspace, and waters, and to maintain the security and stability of our people, which necessitates the maintaining of security and stability in the region as a whole. It will be our joint duty to confront any hostile attempts to undermine the independence and sovereignty of Yemen and which threaten the freedom of navigation in the Red Sea. While we reiterate our denunciation of all the incidents and hostile movements aimed at creating tension and disturbing the security in the region, we warn against using these incidents as an excuse for the military imperialist interference in the region's affairs and as a justification for the military presence of the imperialist fleets and bases.

In this respect, we re-emphasize our constant and principled position on the disputes between our Arab peoples and the imperialist and Zionist forces, foremost of which is the Arab Palestinian people's issue and their legitimate right to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to establish their independent national state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative. We shall continue our support for the Arab Palestinian people and the factions of the Palestinian revolution in the direction of the Palestinian national unity and for maintaining the PLO unity, and strengthening its sacrificial alliance with Syria and all the factions of the liberation movements in the Arab world against the various hostile plots of the imperialist-Zionist alliance.

In this respect we must point out the importance of the solidarity and support which the Soviet Union and all the socialist countries have given to our Arab issues in general and the Palestinian issue in particular. The Soviet initiative came to resolve the critical situation in the Middle East, renewing the eagerness of the Soviet Union for just and lasting peace in this region on the basis of justly solving the Palestinian problem, which is the core of the Arab-Israel conflict. We fully support and welcome the Soviet initiative, since it provides a realistic and comprehensive framework for strengthening peace in the Middle East region and for recognizing the constant rights of the Palestinian Arab people. I welcome you again at the beginning of the second session of the Joint Ministerial Committee which comes as an expression of emphasis from the leaderships of the two parts that we will not waste any effort in following this chosen path and in carefully following up all that has been agreed upon in the previous unity meetings. We will protect and develop the results achieved during the course of our common work throughout the past period. Thank you. [applause]

YAR Premier Addresses Council

GF061948 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Speech delivered by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, at the opening of the second session of the Joint Ministerial Council in Aden on 6 August — recorded]

[Text] Brothers, members from the southern part of the homeland, allow me on behalf of myself and on behalf of the brother members of the Ministerial Council from the northern part to express our pride in our meeting with you in this part of the homeland. We are opening the second session of the Ministerial Council meetings and we hope that the results of these meetings will be fruitful and constructive and contribute to accelerating the unity process. You and your brother president are raising the banner of this unity and are working to achieve it. In conveying to you the greetings and good wishes of your brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president and secretary general, we would like to express our gratitude for the warm welcome we receive every time we visit this previous part of the beloved homeland.

Brother Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, during these years since the Aden coordination aggreement was signed in 1981, the two parts of our dear country, under the two political leaderships in San'a' and Aden, have witnessed positive steps for unity. If this continues, and if our efforts deepen and expand, we will realize the noble goal to which all our people aspire: Yemeni unity, which is the fate and destiny of our country and people. We hope that out of our country's situation and out of our people's aspirations and in light of the efforts and steps being taken by the political leaderships in San'a' and Aden, the unity march will continue and that realizing this goal will not remain a dream, as some pessimists have thought it to be.

Brother chairman, our meeting here to continue the second session of the Ministerial Committee is not just superficial. We are meeting to review what we have achieved and what we will achieve in the future. We are meeting to encourage all specialized organs in this homeland to achieve more progress in developing joint projects to implement full cooperation and coordination in all the fields. This will be coordinated through the agreement and the resolutions reached by the Yemeni Supreme Council at its first and second sessions, through the resolutions issued by the Ministerial Committee in its first meeting, and through the decisions by the Joint Committees.

Brother chairman, we are confident in our mutual keenness to ensure the success and implementation of all agreements and decisions made to realize our noble goal of unity and to take advantage of what we have learned from the practices and instructions of your brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and all officials in the northern part of the homeland. We sense these feelings in all the brother officials and in your wise leadership. We are confident that this spirit will dominate our session and all the steps we take. May God guide all of us. Thank you all. Peace be upon you.

Chairman Receives Message From Soviet Leaders

GF070710 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Aden, 6 Aug (WAKH) — PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has received a message from Soviet leaders pertaining to bilateral relations and means of reinforcing and expanding them in all fields. The message was conveyed by (Ilya Tshishov), the Soviet charge d'affaires in Aden, during an audience with the Yemeni president today.

14 OCTOBER Praises New Soviet Proposals on Mideast

GF031455 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The *14 OCTOBER* newspaper today stressed that with the escalation and intensification of the feverish American-Zionist activity in the direction of encircling the Arab region with wires and missiles and filling it with ditches and barracks to turn it into a hostage that is controlled and abused by the Americans, the Zionists, and their allies, and following the failure of the unilateral U.S. peace plans aimed at nothing more than providing a cover for the Zionist wars and invasions, the Middle East region was placed in a critical and explosive position that threatens international peace and security.

The paper noted in its editorial that confronting these threats necessitates effective and extensive international participation. The recent Soviet proposals concerning the Middle East question came to answer the pressing questions raised by the serious developments in the region. *14 OCTOBER* affirmed that the Soviet proposals announced by TASS News Agency at the start of this week are a continuation of the Soviet Union's policy toward the Middle East question and of former proposals which serve the same purpose, but include new issues that are extremely important.

People's Assembly Speaker on Talks in U.S.

NC070837 Cairo MENA in English 0745 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Washington, Aug 7 (MENA) — Dr Rifʿat al-Mahjub, speaker of the People's Assembly, described his day-long talks in Washington yesterday as fruitful, adding that he found both the U.S. Administration top officials and the Senate members he had met, favourably understanding and appreciative of Egypt's home and foreign policies, particularly Egypt's ambitious economic development programme as well as its role in promoting peace and stability in the Middle East.

Dr al-Mahjub will spend his day today — Tuesday — in talks with the assistant secretary of state for the Middle East, Richard Murphy. These talks will extend to a working lunch to be hosted by Mr Murphy at the department.

The speaker of the People's Assembly will have 2 more days of talks and round table discussions in Washington — Wednesday and Thursday — before he returns to Cairo. Yesterday — Monday — Dr al-Mahjub met with Joseph Kemp, assistant to the president's national security adviser in charge of the Middle East, reviewing the current situations in the Middle East.

He spent the latter part of the day yesterday at the U.S. Senate, he had a meeting with the prominent Democratic [as received] Senator Charles Mathias. He was then invited to attend part of a senate session chaired by Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker. Dr al-Mahjub was warmly greeted by Senator Baker and other [Senate] members.

Mubarak Begins 4-Day Visit to Yugoslavia

For Egyptian and Yugoslav reportage on the visit of President Husni Mubarak, including his reception by and subsequent talks with Veselin Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, see the Yugoslavia section of the 6 August Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Foreign Minister Ghali Arrives in Beijing

For Beijing XINHUA and other coverage of the visit to the People's Republic of China by Egyptian Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 7 August China *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

'Abd al-Majid To See Mitterrand in Paris

NC061926 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1922 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Brioni, 6 Aug (MENA) — Speaking after the Egyptian-Yugoslav round of discussions in Brioni today, Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid told reporters that he will meet with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris on Wednesday afternoon. It is worth noting that President Mitterrand had recently stopped over at Cairo Airport where he held discussions with President Husni Mubarak.

'Abd al-Majid on Iraqi Minister's Upcoming Visit

NC031454 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1428 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 3 Aug (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid told MENA that Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will visit Egypt on 11 August. His visit will be within the framework of continuous consultations between the two countries and the exchange of views on issues of common interest, particularly regional questions. Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that the visit aims to bolster relations between the two countries by implementing the agreements reached during past visits made by the foreign ministers of both countries.

Ghali on Efforts To Settle Iran-Iraq War

NC060859 Cairo MENA in English 0840 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Manama, Aug 6 (MENA) -- Egyptian diplomacy has succeeded in mobilising public opinion in nonaligned countries in favor of a peaceful settlement to the Iraq-Iran war, Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali told *AL-MAWAQIF* magazine. In an interview with the Bahraini magazine, Dr Ghali stressed the need for pursuing this mobilisation so that nonaligned countries may shoulder their responsibility and come up with a framework for negotiations or cooperation in quest of a settlement, even a temporary one, for the conflict between these two countries.

On Egypt's return to the Arab fold Dr. Ghali expressed in his interview reported by the GULF NEWS AGENCY, hope for Arab solidarity to overcome all Arab differences, which should be settled cordially within an Arab context with no foreign intervention.

Party Declines To Attend Conference in Israel

NC071124 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA) — The Committee for Restructuring the Socialist Liberal Party has turned down an invitation extended to the party to attend the International Liberalism Conference, due to take place in Tel Aviv next September. Following a meeting by this committee, Liberal Party chairman Mustafa Kamil Murad said that his party decided to decline the invitation because of the Israeli Government's stand on the military occupation of south Lebanon, its rigid posture toward the PLO, and the Israeli presence in Egypt's Tabah.

Meanwhile, Murad disclosed that the committee will hold another meeting after 'Id al-Adha to endorse the organizational structure of the party before the party's general conference convenes in November. Murad also said that the reports published in some Arab papers about a schism within his party are unfounded, adding that these are only the differences of opinion which are needed to reach unified stands.

'Progressive' Figure Hails Soviet Proposals

LD041926 Kuwait KUNA in English 1836 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug 4 (KUNA) — An Egyptian progressive leader hailed, in an interview here Saturday, the fresh Soviet proposals which call for holding an international conference on peace in the Middle East saying the proposals have come after the failure of all former initiatives to establish peace in that troubled region. In an interview with KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA), the secretary general of the Egyptian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity Ahmad Hamrush said the Soviet Union is calling, through the new proposals, for a solution to the Middle East crisis on international basis and is backed by the United Nations resolutions.

Hamrush is currently on a visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity after the restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union. Hamrush is heading a delegation that groups former Egyptian Deputy Premier and head of the Egyptian-Soviet Friendship Society Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam az-Zayat and former Supplies Minister and member of the Secretariat of the Unionist Progressive Nationalist Party Fu'ad Mursi.

The leftist Egyptian leader noted that the fresh Soviet proposals do not condemn former agreements (referring to the U.S. sponsored Egyptian-Israeli Camp David accords) which, he said indicates that the Soviet Union is not making a problem of those agreements. He added that the new Soviet proposals are calling for the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories, including East Jerusalem and is giving the Israelis the chance to achieve real peace rather than the Israeli Government's Zionist and expansionist dreams.

Hamrush noted that there is a mounting trend toward peace inside Israel adding that time is ripe for activating the issue because the Arab countries have started to believe in the idea of holding an international conference and King Husayn of Jordan had made several statements in support of such a conference. Hamrush expressed belief that the Arab countries, including Egypt, would welcome holding that conference in which the UN will be having a major role adding that the West European countries can pressure the U.S. to secure the convening of the proposed peace conference.

Answering a question on the visit made by the PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Cairo last December, Hamrush said the visit was a positive step that brought the Egyptian regime and the PLO closer. He noted that the visit had come after the freeze in the Egyptian-Israeli relations saying the image had changed "and instead of As-Sadat and Begin standing under the Israeli and the Egyptian flags we can see now Mubarak and 'Arafat standing under the Egyptian and Palestinian flags."

On the possibility that Egypt would abrogate the Camp David accords, he said this issue is not being raised "even by the official Egyptian opposition" because they believe the agreements had been frozen or ended after serving its [as received] purpose.

Hamrush pointed out that the Arab differences and fragmentation are disasterous because all Arab countries, which have effective military capabilities, are not on good terms with one another at the time when they (the Arabs) are facing Israel and its strategic cooperation with the U.S., the American Rapid Deployment Force and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He cited the differences between Syria and Iraq and those between Syria and Egypt as examples of the current Arab situation and expressed belief that rapprochement among those three Arab countries is basic for confronting Israel and repulsing the American-Israeli conspiracies against the Arabs.

Speaking on the Iran-Iraq war, Hamrush said the only beneficiaries from that conflict are Israel and the U.S. because it prevents the unification of Arab military forces on the Eastern front and blocks reaching a settlement to the Middle East crisis.

Hamrush hailed what he said was Kuwait's "breaching of the monopoly on arms" and said by refusing to arm the small countries, the U.S. wants to force them to bow to its policies.

Angolan Agriculture Minister on Working Visit

MB062044 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Evaristo Domingos Kimba, the minister of agriculture, begins today a working and friendly visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt at the invitation of that country's authorities. During his visit, Evaristo Domingos Kimba will discuss agricultural issues with the local officials within the framework of the broadening of bilateral relations. Our government's minister of agriculture arrived in Egypt 2 days ago, but will begin his official visit to that Arab country only today.

AL-AHRAM on 'Race' for Jewish Vote in U.S. Elections

NC040736 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0420 GMT 4 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Race for Votes", *AL-AHRAM* today says in its "Opinion" column: The race for the Jewish vote has entered its final stage between the Democratic and Republican parties in the United States. The paper warns that this is a season known for its pressure and bargaining in which, unfortunately, the Arabs can do nothing but wait to know the minimum of Jewish demands agreed to by [the two parties] program. These demands are always increasing.

The paper adds that the Republican Party is now attempting to exploit the shortcomings that appeared at the Democratic Party convention by having the [Republican] Party convention issue a statement that once again rejects and condemns anti-Semitism. This action is totally pro-Jewish because the Arab side disappeared a long time ago.

The paper points out that the Democratic Party has certainly not missed the point. But the party officials, led by Mondale, were content with a statement of condemnation [of anti-Semitism] during the convention without having the convention issue a special statement on this issue to guarantee that everybody will rally around a single candidate, Mondale, and also to prevent a split by the other candidate, Jackson, who had the votes of the blacks, who have condemned Israel in their campaign without any help from the Arabs.

Concluding the article, the paper expresses its belief that while party convention resolutions are not absolutely binding on the president after assuming the presidency, they are at least a clear indication of the direction which the party's public opinion want him to proceed. Reiterating these resolutions in the campaigns lends weight to them and gives them in the long run a positive influence in defining the political course.

AL-AKHBAR Comments on Red Sea Shipping Safety

NC070650 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 7 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-AKHBAR* writes about the safety of shipping in the Red Sea, saying safe navigation across the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez is a matter of interest to every country in the world. Any threat to shipping in the Red Sea should be confronted by a unified international stand the paper adds, because the repercussions involved are not confined to the region. The fact that explosions have occurred on such a [large] scale in the Red Sea proves beyond doubt that someone is trying to destabilize the region. We are still waiting to uncover the motivation behind these explosions, the paper says, and will then take decisive stands against these infantile acts.

AL-AKHBAR calls on all the world to come forth and help unravel the cause of these explosions and eliminate any obstacles to navigation in this strategic artery. This is, the paper argues, the responsibility of all countries using this sea route. Irrespective of who is responsible for these explosions, the paper says, he should understand that there is no room for fooling around in such matters. The explosions hurt everyone, and the punishment of the perpetrators, the paper says, will be equally lavish.

AL-AKHBAR cites Mubarak's statements to journalists before leaving for Yugoslavia yesterday, in which he underlines the firm stand Egypt is taking on such reckless incidents which jeopardize the interests of every country in the world, and not just those in the region. The paper also notes Abu Ghazalah's confirmation that Egypt has taken every possible measure to ensure safe passage in the Red Sea. The paper concludes by calling on the perpetrators to stop playing with fire in this region, because, if matters get out of hand, they will be the first to get their fingers burned.

AL-AHRAM Views U.S., USSR Middle East Initiative

PM061357 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 3 Aug 84 p 4

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah article: "The Return of Old Things"]

[Text] Calls for convening an international conference to solve the Middle East problem have recently increased and talk about proposals originating from this or that quarter seem to be an echo of past talk or the same old medicine that has failed to cure the Middle East's sick man. It can even be said that all the proposals now being put forward are nothing more than an old drink put in a new bottle. The originators of some of these proposals did not even bother to give a new name to their proposals.

The reasons are quite clear. Nobody expects any of these new/old proposals which come from this or that side to succeed, to be useful, or to be suitable because those primarily concerned with the problem are still quite unconscious as none of the Arab countries is now seriously or sincerely thinking of a solution for the Middle East problem or the Palestinian problem. We say this on the occasion of two statements or two attitudes:

The first statement was issued at the beginning of the week and the second at the end of it. It appeared as if there was a certain connection between the two statements, more than just the subject they talked about. At the beginning of the week the U.S. assistant secretary of state spoke before a Congressional subcommittee about U.S. interest in restoring momentum to the peace process in the Middle East. Hardly a few days had passed when a Soviet statement disseminated by TASS expounded the Soviet view on solving the Middle East problem.

The most important points stated by the U.S. official were:

1. The U.S. Administration still believes that the Reagan formula is capable of solving the Middle East problem despite Israel's rejection of it, the failure of King Husayn and the Palestinians to reach any agreement and Syria's opposition to it.

2. The United States feels that frustration of the countries of the area will increase if the United States does not make efforts to give momentum to the peace process, particularly after the autonomy talks have lost their importance and the Soviets have become active in consolidating their ties with the area in the light of the Gulf war.

3. The United States realizes the role Syria is playing in Lebanon and recognizes the success it achieved in establishing security, which gives importance to Syria's participation in the peace efforts in the area despite the special and increasing ties between Syria and the Soviet Union.

4. The United States has held contacts with the Soviet Union regarding the Middle East but still believes that involving the Soviet Union in the operation will be of no benefit because the Soviets will not accept the formula which the United States is adopting for solving the Middle East crisis.

As for the Soviet statement, it appears to have been issued merely as a response to the U.S. stand. It recalls the old Soviet demand for convening an international conference in which all the parties concerned will participate, that is Egypt, Israel, Syria, Jordan, and the PLO as well as the Soviet Union and the United States. The statement reiterated the Soviet demands on which no one in the Arab world disagrees, namely Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories ocupied since 1967, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state under PLO leadership, and returning eastern Jerusalem as part of the Palestinian state. Meanwhile the United Nations is to take control of the transitional period for several months.

Neither the U.S. nor the Soviet stand adds anything new to the present situations. There have been no changes in the Middle East that call for reactivating the old initiatives and trying to put life into them. That is unless the expected change in the form of the Israeli Government has prompted both sides to send up trial balloons in the sky of the area. This is in addition to the increasing U.S. fears that the Arab situation is gradually getting out of its hands in view of its successive failures in Lebanon and Jordan and in the peace efforts in the area in general. An objective analysis of the present situation in Middle East gives almost no chance of acceptance for either the U.S. initiative or the Soviet proposals.

The first, that is Reagan's initiative, has lost a golden opportunity when the Reagan administration failed to force Israel to accept it. It then failed to enter into a dialogue with the Palestinians and got involved in its risky military venture in Lebanon. It crowned all this with the strategic agreement with Israel, thus losing most of its credibility in the Arab world. Had it not been for the Gulf war and the fears of the kings and shaykhs the result would have been far more serious.

The second, that is the Soviet proposals or demands, represent rosy dreams that lack the power of implementation. Resolutions supporting them have been issued by the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the Fes summit and scores of statements and speeches have been made in their support, and all Arabs regardless of their schools of thought, from 'Arafat to Syria, from Jordan to Egypt, and from Libya to Saudi Arabia, support them.

But in reality and in the light of balances of power the realization [of these demands] needs several more wars like the October war; it needs the oil weapon and other economic weapons which — whatever is left of them in the hands of the Arabs — have been deposited in American and European banks; and it needs first and foremost a united Arab stand that is capable of exerting pressure and being effective, a stand that should be preceded by an awakening from the present state of Arab unconsciousness.

UN Secretary General de Cuellar proposed the idea of an international conference several months ago. The United States and Israel were the first to refuse it followed by Britain and France. The Arabs have already tried the Geneva conference following the October war when they were stronger and in a state of greater solidarity. Syria refused to attend the conference and differences broke out as to who would represent the Palestinians. The Arab differences and the U.S. and Israeli prevarications then contributed to the failure of the conference.

It is ironic that the Arabs should continue to talk about the illusion of an international conference at a time when the Palestinian factions are busy with only one thing — undermining the steps of rapprochement that have taken place between Egypt and the PLO following 'Arafat's visit to Cairo. It is also ironic that this should happen at a time when the Arab countries have failed to overcome the crisis of relations between them and Egypt despite much talk about it.

To be fair it must be said that the initiative that the Middle East needs will only come from the heart of the Arab world and not from Washington or Moscow — the initiative to settle the inter-Arab conflict before looking for an initiative to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Israeli Raid on Palestinian Camp Denounced

NC031439 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Commentary by Ahmad al-Qasir: "Attempts To Annihilate the Palestinian Identity Are Doomed to Failure"]

[Text] Israeli planes and gunboats attacked the Nahr al-Barid Palestinian camp north of Tripoli under the pretext that it is a Palestinian guerrilla stronghold. Such an attack is, in our opinion, a grave act of aggression that can never be justified. As it is, Israeli forces occupy south Lebanon, aided by the army of southern Lebanon, which the Israelis use to guarantee the safety of Israel's northern border. In other words, there is no such a thing as a Palestinian threat against Israel.

Such an aggressive act is directed against the Palestinians. This is understood from the statement the Israeli spokesman made. This act is simply meant to annihilate the Palestinian identity and the Palestinian people, wherever they are, to liquidate the Palestinian issue. Aside from this, aggression directed against Palestinian civilians aims to obstruct national reconciliation in Lebanon and to obstruct Rashid Karami's government — the government that is trying to restore stability and security in Lebanon and to terminate the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon.

As a matter of fact, the Israeli raid came at a time when Tripoli's rival groups were clashing, suggesting a link between the two. In other words, the clashes and the raid, taken together, are apt to create tension and instability in northern Lebanon. This is bound to distract the Lebanese Government and to divert it from its primary mission of reconciliation. The Israeli raid is thus meant to rekindle sedition in Lebanon to enable the Israelis to prolong their occupation of south Lebanon as much as possible.

It is no coincidence that the Israeli raid against the Palestinian camp north of Tripoli took place only 1 day after the Israeli authorities for no reason closed the Palestinian An-Najah University for 4 months and arrested scores of its Palestinian students. Aside from this, there are also the arbitrary measures taken daily against the Arabs living in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and south Lebanon. All this proves beyond a doubt that Israel is determined to pursue its policies, which aim to impose a status quo that overlooks the inalienable rights of the Palestinians.

Egypt believes that only a just peace can restore security and stability in the region. Egypt also is doing its best to achieve such a peace. Egypt therefore denounces the Israeli raid on the Nahr al-Barid Palestinian camp. This raid is an aggressive act that obstructs the efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East — a settlement safeguarding the legitimate rights of all the peoples of the region, including the

Palestinian people. This raid also impedes the endeavors made by Rashid Karami's government to reinstitute security and stability in Lebanon.

The Israeli people must acknowledge the fact that peace can never be imposed by force, and that attempts to annihilate the Palestinian identity are doomed to failure. The Palestinians will not cease to demand their legitimate rights to their land on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The only way to bring security and peace to the area and to eliminate tension and instability is to give everyone his rights, end the occupation, and respect the sovereignty of the others.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Reacts to Shelling

NC040544 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0420 GMT 4 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline: "The Hawks' Policies Continue," *AL-JUMHURIYAH* draws attention in today's editorial to the fact that Israel has once again exposed itself when it, as usual, exploited circumstances to deal sudden blows to impede any attempt for peace in the region. The paper says that the Israeli plot continues to keep the Lebanese situation on fire and prevents the Lebanese people from enjoying peace even for a few minutes. While Rashid Karami's government is exerting all its efforts to bring about a reconciliation and reunify the capital, Israel's anchored ships attacked that same capital with rockets to abort every peace attempt and to frighten Lebanese politicians so they cannot think for a single moment about the restoration of peace.

The paper adds that as is its custom, Israel refuses to wait for a quiet moment. Its hawks' plan is known and declared. Israel's aim is still to keep the war going, and despite the struggle for power between Likud and Labor, Israel's view of abroad is not the same as its domestic view. The policy of expansion, tension, and igniting fires is agreed upon by all the political forces. The view of the Middle East situation is calculated and planned whether Peres or Shamir is the prime minister. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* concludes its editorial by stressing that this has always been the method of hawks.

Israeli Raid Analyzed

NC041309 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Commentary by 'Atif al-Ghamri]

[Excerpts] The Israeli shelling of the Palestinian camp Nahr al-Barid, north of Tripoli, came amid — and was linked to — certain developments in Israel and Lebanon. The Nahr al-Barid camp operation occurred at a time when the Lebanese Government was attempting to implement a security plan in Lebanon — a plan which required an atmosphere of stability throughout Lebanon.

Consequently, these events indicate that Israel's fingers are acting in Lebanon in a way that aims at jeopardizing stability — stability that can give the Lebanese Government the chance to implement the security plan.

By all standards, the shelling of the Nahr al-Barid camp was an aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanon peoples. It was also an attempt to wreck the efforts to establish peace in the area.

Communique No 1,549 Details 6 Aug Activity

JN061628 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,549 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 6 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To maintain Iraq's lofty banner, the heroes of the Iraqi Armed Forces continue their activities against the desperate forces of the Iranian enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units shelled enemy troop concentrations and positions in the operational sector east of Basra and pounded them with other weapons, killing three and destroying one infantry position.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships attacked enemy troop concentrations in the Shatt al-'Arab operational sector, scoring effective hits. All our helicopter gunships returned safely and triumphantly to base after accomplishing their mission.

3. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, destroying one infantry position.

4. One enemy observation post was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

5. The forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite clique shelled one of the civilian areas in Basra Governorate between 0700 and 0730 today. The 11 shells which fell on the area damaged an elementary school and three houses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 August 1984

Maritime Target Attacked South of Khark 7 Aug

JN070931 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0920 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionage. With the help of God Almighty, a successful air strike was carried out against a very large maritime target south of Iranian Khark Island at 0921 [0521 GMT] today. The target was accurately and effectively hit. All the heroic air hawks returned safely to base with their aircraft after accomplishing their duty with great success, praise be to God.

[Dated] 7 August 1984.

Liberian Tanker Hit

JN071040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1018 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] London, 7 Aug (INA)— Lloyd's of London has announced that the Liberian tanker, *Friendship L*, was hit by an Iraqi missile south of Khark Island today.

In a statement to journalists today, the company's spokesman said that the tanker caught fire and that rescue operations are underway to control the fire.

The spokesman declined to give any further details, especially concerning the extent of the damage or the fate of the crew. He said, however, that more details will be announced later after a report has been received from Lloyd's representative in the area.

Iraq announced earlier today that its military aircraft had carried out an air strike against a very large maritime target south of Iran's Khark Island.

A spokesman for the British Lloyds Insurance Company said today that the Liberian tanker *Friendship L*, which was hit by an Iraqi missile south of Khark Island today, weighs 122,945 metric tons.

In a statement to INA today, the spokesman added that the Liberian tanker is managed by the Greek company Ceres Hellenic and that it was hit 24 miles south Khark Island.

The spokesman indicated that fire broke out in the tanker's bridge and that attempts are underway to extinquish it.

Ramadan Continues Working Visit to Turkey

Agreements Signed

JN061125 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Ankara, 6 Aug (INA) — Cooperation agreements were signed by Iraq and Turkey here today. An agreement on oil cooperation was signed for Iraq by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and for Turkey by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. Another agreement on technical cooperation was signed by Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi and Turkish Energy Minister Kemal Buyukbas.

After the agreements were signed, Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed his great appreciation for what was achieved during the visit and of the positive atmosphere which permeated the talks. He said: The talks indicate the advanced level of Iraqi-Turkish relations. He emphasized Iraq's sincere and earnest desire to promote relations with neighborly Turkey for the sake of serving the two countries' common interests and establishing peace in the region as dictated by their historical ties.

The Turkish prime minister expressed his pride in and satisfaction with the results of the visit. He also expressed Turkey's determination to expand its relations with Iraq under various circumstances and in all fields. He praised the developed, good relations and stressed the need to expand them in order to include all domains.

Shortly before the agreements were signed, Ramadan held a closed meeting with Ozal. Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi participated in the meeting.

It has been learned from a reliable source that Ramadan and Ozal also discussed bilateral relations and the ways to develop them in the economic and trade fields. They expressed their satisfaction with the results of the talks and stressed the importance of continuing visits between the two countries' officials. The two officials also discussed Arab and international issues of common concern.

Press Conference in Ankara

JN061427 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Ankara, 6 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, has stated that the Iraqi command's decision to impose a siege on Iranian ports in the Arab Gulf, particularly on the Khark area last February, is irrevocable. At a press conference here at noon today, Ramadan said that interruptions in this siege have nothing to do with bilateral agreements but are part of the military plan. He added that the near future will witness further developments in the implementation of the siege. They will be more effective and more distinctive than was the case during the past stage, after all the necessary components for achieving this objective are completed.

Ramadan said that when Turkey finds that it has the means and the opportunity, it will play a role in attaining peace between Iraq and Iran. It will not hesitate because it is convinced that peace is in the interest of the region and not only in the interest of Iraq and Iran.

He announced that an agreement has been reached with Turkey on the construction of a new crude oil pipeline with a capacity of 500,000 to 600,000 barrels per day. Ramadan added that during his current visit to Turkey an agreement was reached on the basic principles for the this project. A memorandum of understanding was also signed between the two countries.

Ramadan said that a technical committee headed by the two countries' oil ministers will be formed within 1 week to speed up implementation. He added: We do not expect the period of implementation to extend beyond 18 months. Ramadan said that the two sides resumed their discussion on the construction of a natural gas pipeline and the supply of electrical power. Officials from the two countries will meet within the next 2 months to reach new agreements on the formula for cooperation in these spheres. He added that talks will also continue to link the two countries by a direct railway.

Ramadan added that talks also dealt with the possibility of establishing a joint oil refinery in Turkish ports that will depend on Iraqi oil. Ramadan said that the two countries have many ideas on the establishment of joint ventures in accordance with the economic and peaceful bases for promoting bilateral cooperation but that some of these ideas are being hampered by the war circumstances. He added that when the war ends cooperation between Iraq and Turkey will witness a distinctive state that will become a model for bilatrral relations among neighboring countries.

Concluding his press conference, Taha Yasin Ramadan said: Iraqi-Turkish relations are proceeding on the right course, the course of principles and mutual benefit. We are optimistic that the future of these relations will be a prosperous one, as the two countries' leaders have the same ideas about bringing about more practical steps that will benefit both countries.

Meets Turkish President

JN061756 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Ankara, 6 Aug (INA) — Turkish President Kenan Evren received Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan this afternoon. The INA correspondent in Ankara said that Taha Yasin Ramadan conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to the Turkish president. He also conveyed the satisfaction of the president and the Iraqi people with the developing relations between the two countries. He expressed Iraq's eagerness to develop these relations in all fields.

The correspondent added that President Evren asked Taha Yasin Ramadan to convey his greetings to President Saddam Husayn. He asserted that the Turkish people and government are proud of the developing relations with Iraq. He also expressed Turkey's desire and eagerness to develop these relations in all fields to serve common interests.

Evren expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit and with what has been agreed, as well as with the positive and cordial atmosphere that prevailed during the discussions.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and stressed the need to strengthen and develop relations in the economic and commercial fields. They also stressed the need to bolster cooperation in harmony with the historic relations between the two countries and the importance of these relations to the region's stability and security.

The meeting was attended by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi, Turkish Minister of State Ahmet Alptemocin, and the Turkish ambassador to Iraq.

Returns, Makes Statement

JN070614 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and his delegation returned to Baghdad at dawn today following a 2-day official visit to Turkey.

In a statement upon his return, Ramadan said that his visit to Turkey has established a model for the promotion of relations between the two neighborly countries. He indicated that a memorandum of understanding was signed on the laying of a second Iraqi oil pipeline across Turkey, and that the minutes of the Iraqi-Turkish committee for economic and technical cooperation were also signed.

The first deputy prime minister said that he had discussed with the Turkish officials the current Arab and international issues, adding that the Turkish side expressed support for Iraq's peaceful efforts to end the war and consolidate security and stability in the region.

JORDAN TIMES Views Nomination of Peres

JN060934 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 6 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "What's With Peres' Chance?"]

[Text] Shim‘on Peres' nomination Sunday to form an Israeli government cannot exactly be seen as a major breakthrough in the search for Middle East peace. But his selection to lead a new coalition certainly presents the area with a window of opportunity to move things forward on the question of an Arab-Israeli settlement.

It is difficult to say that the Israeli Labour Party will actually be able to patch up a coalition strong enough to try peace with the Arabs. It is even more difficult trying to figure out whether any new Israeli government could possibly be that much interested in discussing the issue at all, at the present.

From what we could gather from President Hayim Herzog's nomination of Mr Peres, Israel first should struggle to heal its crippled economy, then end its internal political divisions, third establish a unity government, fourth preserve Israel's "democracy", and then apparently sit tight and do nothing. No mention of peace with the Arabs. No question of territorial concessions. And no word about coexistence with the Palestinians of course.

Looked at differently, Mr Peres' letter of nomination might have been tuned to play to the voters' ears. Everybody in Israel seemingly wanted a "national coalition" government and Herzog and Peres had better try that option first. Yitzhak Shamir had to be asked whether he would serve under Peres — or else a narrow coalition did not have a chance to survive.

This is all part of the Israeli political game. Now, what hope is there that Labour will win over Yosef Burg's National Religious Party [NRP] (four Knesset seats) and Aharon Abu-Hatzira's TAMI (one seat) to command a majority coalition of 65 votes or so? Furthermore, what hope is there for such a government to pursue the course of peace with Jordan, Syria and the Palestinians?

Much of course will depend on Mr Peres' ability to woo the NRP and TAMI in the next few days. Much will depend on whether natural labour allies Shinuy and CRM (Citizens Rights Movement) will not be alienated by the partnership with the two religious parties, and on Hadash and the Progressive List for Peace (mixed Arab-Jewish parties) not supporting a hawkish Peres government.

Much also will depend on Shamir swallowing up his pride and deciding to serve under Labour only to prevent the next government from making any concessions on the West Bank and the Golan; or for the Likud joining a "national coalition" in order to reform the electoral system, when their intention in fact is solely to prevent the Labour opposition from making reasonable peace with the Arabs.

In sum, the picture in Israel today is not as dull as it would have been had Mr. Herzog found no alternative but to reappoint Shamir to head the government. But it is not that bright either.

We will have to wait and see what happens. If Peres and his colleagues in Labour were truly interested in a fair compromise with the Arabs, their commitment to peace should override their narrow political interests. Now, however, is the best chance for them to show their real intentions.

The "economy", the shape of the "democracy" and the rest of the issues that the Israelis say are dividing their nation are but functions of their conflict with the Palestinians. And they know it.

Briefs

New Senate Member—Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* —A royal decree has been issued approving the appointment of Rashid ‘Urayqat as Senate member to succeed the late Kamil ‘Urayqat. [Excerpt] [Amman *AD-DUSTUR* in Arabic 7 Aug 84 p 1 JN]

Reportage on Visit of Russian Official

Says Beirut Supports Proposals

NC061106 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Within the context of his contacts and meetings with Lebanese officials, Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department, met at noon today with Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The 1-hour meeting was attended by Soviet Charge d'Affaires (Yuriy Suslikov) and Khalil Mikkawi, director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry. Polyakov declined to make any statement at the end of the meeting. He also refrained from replying to journalists' questions. He only said: Lebanon supports the Soviet proposals on convening an international peace conference for solving the Middle East problem. When asked about Prime Minister Rashid Karami's visit to Moscow, Polyakov said he knew nothing about that.

Karami Statement on Meeting

NC061352 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received Soviet envoy Vladimir Polyakov at the Government House at noon today. They discussed the Lebanese situation and the question of convening an international conference on the Middle East. After the meeting, Polyakov made no statement but only said that Lebanon supports the Soviet initiative on the Middle East. On leaving the Government House, Prime Minister Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The discussions dealt with the crisis in the region and naturally with the conditions in Lebanon. You all know the principles of Soviet policy, which is based on supporting peoples' struggles for their rights. Regarding Lebanon, the Soviets support the salvation march and every step toward liberation in the south, the western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. The discussions further dealt with the Soviet proposal on convening an international conference, to be attended by all parties concerned, to deal with the Middle East question. We have always supported the call for such a conference. Our views were identical and we thank the Soviet Union for its support and backing for the Arab struggle, particularly their support for the Palestinian question.

[Unidentified reporter] You spent 3 consecutive days in Tripoli dealing with the situation. What is the situation now?

[Karami] I left Tripoli hoping that the cease-fire agreement will be implemented and that practical steps will be taken to consolidate security in Tripoli. We are confident that all citizens want this and that they are prepared to do everything asked of them so security might be finally consolidated in our city.

[Reporter] There was a security setback in Iqlim al-Kharrub in the Ash-Shuf after a cease-fire agreement had been reached. Do you have any new information on this?

[Karami] What is happening now and then in Iqlim al-Kharrub is really regrettable. There is no justification for it. We are therefore closely watching the situation. We will adopt all necessary measures to consolidate the cease-fire and to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

[Reporter] A final question on the postponement of the Cabinet meeting: A session was scheduled to be held today. Why was the special session postponed or cancelled?

[Karami] The fact is that contacts are underway to deal with some of the questions raised. The special session, which was to discuss political affairs, has been postponed. The Cabinet will hold a meeting on Wednesday. We hope it will succeed in making the necessary decisions that will end the existing problems. [end recording]

Leaves for Damascus

NC070513 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the USSR's Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department, left Beirut for Damascus yesterday afternoon.

Al-Murabitun Delegation Meets Soviet Charge

NC061401 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A delegation representing the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun Command, comprising Brothers Nihad Urfali and Dr Walid at-Tabsh, today visited the Soviet Embassy in Beirut. The delegation met with Charge d'Affaires (Yuriy Suslikov). They discussed the current political situation, particularly after the implementation of the security plan. The charge briefed the command members on Soviet envoy Polyakov's mission in Lebanon.

Sham'un on Evacuees, Contract Teachers

NC060619 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Reacting to a question by the Voice of Lebanon this morning on the meetings that had been held between members of the Lebanese Front and Minister Walid Junblatt, [former] President Camille Sham'un said: The greater the efforts, the sooner the evacuees will return to their homes. It is the right of these Front members to make the necessary efforts and resolve the issue of the evacuees. Every evacuee is entitled to return to his or her home and village. At any rate, Sham'un added, the meetings and contacts are bound to pacify the situation and to create an atmosphere conducive to coexistence in the various areas. He denied that Minister Junblatt is facing opposition from the Druze with regard to the return of Christians to the mountain. He said, however, there are individuals who oppose the idea.

Sham'un added: The return of the evacuees is linked with the security plan, because the security plan will ensure a safe return of all evacuees, as well as the security of the mountain. He said that the security plan has not been discussed. In reply to a question, Sham'un condemned attempts at discrimination, adding: I am against such attempts, and it is the right of every evacuee to return to his home. To a question about the contract teachers, Sham'un said: I do not share the opinion of Minister Dr Salim al-Huss in this regard. Al-Huss' statement yesterday, Sham'un added, is replete with fallacies. I would like to ask him what would his stand be had the majority of the teachers been Christian? Sham'un said: We, however, should not indulge in such issues. We must look into the matter from the perspective of qualifications.

Committee Formed To Discuss Security Plan

NC061654 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A tripartite committee was formed today, including representatives of Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri, as well as of the Army Command. The committee will discuss the security plan for the mountain and prepare a program for its implementation, preparatory to the submission of a report to the Cabinet on Wednesday. The committee consists of Lieutenant Sharif Fayyad, who represents the Progressive Socialist Party; Dr Ayyub Humayyid, who represents the Amal Movement; and a representative of the Army Command. The committee will meet at the Health Ministry's building in the Museum area at 1700 today.

On the other hand, sources close to Minister Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, have affirmed that the question of the contracted teachers has been included on the agenda of the Cabinet's session this Wednesday. Former Minister Marwan Hamadah conveyed this information to Minister Birri last night. The same sources expect the session to be long. The plan for the mountain and the defense law will be discussed, in addition to the other items on the agenda. The sources say that during the session, Minister Birri will demand the reopening of the coastal road from Nahr al-Awwali to Nahr al-Kalb in the first stage and the implementation of the security plan for the mountain. They add that he will also propose an urgent draft law on increasing the number of the deputies. The sources point out that the Cabinet might also discuss the question of forming the constituent body. Government sources exclude this, however, affirming that the discussion of political issues has been postponed until after the discussion of the security plans.

Shams ad-Din Interviewed by MONDAY MORNING

NC061312 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 30 Jul-5 Aug 84 pp 30-35

[Interview with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, vice president of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, by Beirut *MONDAY MORNING* journalist Mona as-Sa'id — date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [As-Sa'id] Are you satisfied with the way in which the security plan has been implemented so far in Beirut, and do you expect it to be fully implemented without security setbacks?

[Shams ad-Din] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We are satisfied with the security plan because security has always been one of our urgent demands and we have constantly been working, together with all other parties and groups, on this issue. We welcomed the introduction of the security plan with the hope that all would cooperate to ensure its success. On the issue of the way in which it was implemented, however, we have two major reservations. Frankly, we are deeply worried about the way in which the plan was implemented.

One of our reservations, and one of the sources of our anxiety, arises from the fact that the way in which the plan was implemented carries the seeds of security decentralization. This is quite obvious and there is no need for me to cite implications or indications. I realize that there were reasons for speeding up the implementation of the security plan, and I am all for a speedy implementation. However, we must be realistic and admit that an alarming gap exists, and, having done that, we must strive to avoid and eliminate this gap because the seeds of security decentralization could grow in view of prevailing local sectarian and political conditions and due to regional currents. This could ultimately lead to decentralized security. In such a case, it is possible, and indeed probable, that security decentralization would lead to development decentralization which, in turn, would lead to some form of financial decentralization. This ultimately, would end up leading to political decentralization which is the evil that we have been trying to avoid since it would result in partition, which we believe to be the worst of evils, and the worst of possibilities, for Lebanon both as a nation and as a political society. This is the first source of our anxiety.

The second issue that worries us is the possibility that this plan, and the steps the government is planning to supplement it, including a political settlement, could simply freeze the crisis, or put it on a course that would lead to some form of a solution in some parts of the country, while residual problems would be exported to the south, as was the case in 1977-78. The south would then be left to its fate, with state action confined to diplomacy, and nothing more. In such a case, the rest of Lebanon would be at ease while the south would be suffering. This approach, however, would not work, and the crisis in the south would spread to all other parts of the country again. The motto that says "the Lebanese crisis, or problem or cause, started in the south and cannot be solved until the crisis of the south is solved" is not a mere slogan or a sentimental statement, but is based on realistic premises.

Consequently, if what is happening is a freezing or a truce, then it is going to be very temporary, and if this is the proposed solution, it is bound to fail. We have been working with the hope of eliminating these two sources of anxiety in the security plan. We have sought to nip in the bud any trend towards security decentralization, both to prevent satisfaction with the security plan from diverting attention from the need for effective field action on behalf of the south and to caution the regime and the government against feeling that they have discharged their duty to Lebanon by introducing the security plan.

[As-Sa'id] Do you expect the scope of the security plan to be expanded within a week or in the next few days to embrace the mountains?

[Shams ad-Din] In practice, the security plan has not yet been fully implemented in Beirut to start with. Both simple and smart people are aware of gaps. These are not being honestly discussed when it is said that the Army, this army or that, has actually taken over security duties. A person who is longing for something tries to believe, tries to convince himself, in an exercise of wishful thinking. We also want to believe. Actually, pending the completion of the work in Beirut, much of what is being said is totally unrealistic. There are other regions, such as Tripoli, the north, the mountains. Personally, I do not expect a security plan to be drawn up and fully prepared for implementation in the mountains in the near future.

[As-Sa'id] You referred to the seeds of decentralization. Do you think that this problem could be solved if the structure and composition of the Army brigades were reconsidered?

[Shams ad-Din] Naturally, that would solve the problem. Of course, this is not my responsibility, it is the responsibility of the authorities. How can an Army that was cursed yesterday and is blessed today be rebuilt? It must be an Army. Practically speaking, at present we have armies. We obviously had reservations about the Army, and nothing has been done to remove them. Nevertheless, we have no objection to a temporary security task (by the Army) which does not involve interference in the personal affairs or the daily life of the people. If the authorities do not want to be divisive or to cause partition, they must find a way to dispel our fears over the seeds of security decentralization. How can they do that? By rectifying the situation of the Army so that it can become a source of confidence and assurance.

[As-Sa'id] How do you evaluate what has been accomplished so far in terms of reforms, especially on the issue of Shi'ite demands?

[Shams ad-Din] What reforms? Personally, I do not have Shi'ite demands. What reforms are you referring to?

[As-Sa'id] The appointments that have been made...

[Shams ad-Din] This has nothing to do with me and I don't think that these appointments have done anything. They have only deepened sectarianism by making sectarian concessions within very narrow and very harmful limits. I hope nobody thinks that I am pleased with what has happened.

[As-Sa'id] What, in your estimation, must be done? What do you suggest?

[Shams ad-Din] An army must be created, an army with a national vision acceptable to all, and not a grouping of sectarian militias. What we have right now is primarily along the lines of sectarian militias. Does this army, whose leadership acquired much experience in the suburbs, consider itself an army? This is a question to ask the regime and the government. Do the people really believe that there is an army? An army that enjoys public confidence must be built, an army that will not be an instrument of hegemony, or an instrument to oppose hegemony of another nature. They must build an army in the full sense of the word, an army which enjoys the confidence of the people in it as a national institution. As for appointments, I am not concerned and I do not believe that these appointments constitute reform. The Military Council, which was actually created under the previous regime, and was paralyzed, was revived and rehabilitated. Even that has been done in such a way as to transform it into the form of a sectarian council.

[As-Sa'id] In other words, as far you are concerned, do you feel that nothing has been done so far?

[Shams ad-Din] In our opinion nothing basic or new has been done to put the nation on the course of real reform.

[As-Sa'id] What about the south? A committee has been formed?

[Shams ad-Din] Why can't the government, as a whole, pursue issues related to the south? Why should a special committee be set up for that purpose? I don't understand the meaning of the formation of this committee, and I don't know what this committee can do, according to the political logic prevailing in the country, other than to draw up memoranda and prepare studies to be considered by the Cabinet or, at best, to be used to lodge complaints with the Security Council. I am not aware of what resources have been placed at the disposal of this committee, or what might be made available to it or created by it.

[As-Sa'id] Don't you agree that besides the appointment of a special follow-up committee, the question of the south is now receiving much more attention?

[Shams ad-Din] What are the indications of this greater attention?

[As-Sa'id] The creation of a special ministry to handle the affairs of the south is one indication.

[Shams ad-Din] We have never advocated a ministry to handle the affairs of the south. The south is a part of Lebanon, and we do not want attention for the south to come from one ministry but from the whole government. This idea was mooted years ago and was debated by the Higher Shi'ite Council, and the idea was rejected. We want the government, as a whole, to be concerned about the south, and about other areas, other than the south, with each region receiving the attention that it needs, be it in the realm of development or politics.

The southern part of Lebanon is occupied. The confrontation of occupation gives rise to an extraordinary situation. Is the Ministry of South Lebanon Affairs confronting the occupation alone, or is the whole government involved in the confrontation? This occupation should be confronted by the whole governmental structure, by the president, the government and the parliament, and by all the government institutions.

Questions of development must also be faced by the whole Cabinet. In our estimation, the creation of a ministry to cope with the affairs of the south is not suitable. The south should be the concern of the whole government. Occupation is a political issue. Furthermore, developmental needs should not be handled through one ministry. The government as a whole deals with the issues of education, roads, water, electricity, public health, industry, agriculture and development. Likewise, the issue of the south is one of liberation, and should be the concern of the full government. Otherwise, we would have to form ministries for West Al-Biqa', and a ministry for the mountains, and another for the suburbs. This would be ridiculous.

[As-Sa'id] Do you consider that everything taking place right now is only a temporary truce because of the seeds of decentralization?

[Shams ad-Din] As I said, we hope and work. We also believe that the Syrian position on this issue is realistic and sincere. Consequently, we think that efforts will continue to close the decentralization gap in the security plan. We regard the Syrian initiative as a guarantee for such efforts.

[As-Sa'id] Do you think that the committee set up to handle the problem of kidnapped and missing persons will publish the names and fate of all involved, especially those who were killed? Do you expect any backlash, especially in the form of acts of revenge?

[Shams ad-Din] We are against any acts of revenge, because such action will merely exacerbate the situation. However, we are also against the betrayal of people or conspiracies against them. It could be that the majority of the thousands who were kidnapped have been killed. Their fate should be revealed, and those alive should be unconditionally released. This should be done by the Army, by the politicians, or by any other means available. Those killed should be named, and the fate of all kidnapped people should be officially established.

It is wrong for anybody to conspire against the kidnapped and it is an illusion to think that the families of the kidnapped can be deceived by propaganda or committees or that the mothers, wives and sisters and the fathers and brothers can be overlooked. Those alive must be released and the bodies of the dead should be handed over. Otherwise, there can be no solution.

This issue will leave scars, and there could be reactions. However, the recent attempt by the authorities to face the problem by hiding behind the security plan was downight immoral. There are thousands of Lebanese families involved and hundreds of non-Lebanese families as well. They all have loved ones missing, and it totally unfair to accuse them of "undermining the security plan" when they demand action. This is not the way a state or statesmen should act. The government must face up to its responsibilities. The one who rules is responsible, and responsibility does not mean hiding, it involves facing the issues. If they (rulers) think that public office is a joy ride, they are mistaken. Public office is responsibility. They were not forced to accept government posts, they assumed the responsibility.

Thousands have been killed, and hundreds or thousands are alive. The fate of the dead should be revealed, and those who are still alive should be released. Even if I and others like me were to ignore the issue of the kidnapped, the mothers and wives will not follow suit. We are believers, and we are convinced that Almighty God will not abandon this right cause. All the kidnapped are innocent victims, and their fate must be disclosed. At least they can be buried according to their faith. The formation of the committee is only another way of ducking the issue. The families concerned still have some confidence, and have accepted this set-up, but how long will they wait before their patience runs out? They will act again and again, unless something is done.

[As-Sa'id] Do you advocate indirect negotiations with Israel, or do you believe that the national resistance is the only means of securing the withdrawal of Israel from south Lebanon?

[Shams ad-Din] We believe that all negotiations with Israel, direct or indirect, with or without mediators, are fruitless. Consequently, we do not approve of negotiations.

Our position is based on the following reasoning: Israel invaded us under the slogan of "Operation Galilee" or "Peace for Galilee," and it declared that it was not fighting Lebanon but that it wanted to liberate Lebanon from the Palestinians, and that it was fighting the Palestinians. This claim was reiterated repeatedly by Israel. Ultimately, it achieved the objective of the expulsion of the Palestinians from Lebanon. Now it is up to Israel to withdraw.

Relations between Lebanon and Israel are governed by an international accord, namely, the armistice agreement, concluded in March, 1949. This agreement was not revoked, and has been constantly observed. Israel, according, to its claim, did not fight Lebanon, and did not fight the Lebanese state or people. This is what it says. Of course, we know that they fought against all of Lebanon and occupied all Lebanon, but we are quoting their own allegations. Israel did not fight the Lebanese Army, neither did the Army think of fighting Israel.

During the first months of the Israeli occupation, in 1982, the Security Council adopted a number of resolutions on this issue, notably Resolutions 408 and 409. Both resolutions were adopted unanimously by the Council on the basis of moves in the U.N. General Assembly. These two resolutions were fully backed by the United States, the Soviet Union and Western Europe. They called for the unconditional withdrawal of Israel from Lebanon, which means without negotiations. Our position, based on even the Israeli logic, is that the March, 1949 armistice agreement regulates relations between Lebanon and Israel, and United Nations resolutions regulate withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces. As such, there is no need for negotiations. If Israel wants to negotiate with any party, let it negotiate with the ones they fought against, namely, the Palestine Liberation Organization. Israel claims to have fought against the PLO and refuses to negotiate with it, and, at the same time, it claims that it did not fight against Lebanon but insists on negotiating with it. This is reverse logic.

Consequently we are opposed, in principle, to negotiations and agreements. There is an armistice agreement. We consider it to be valid. If Israel and America insist on talks with Lebanon it means that they are seeking gains from Lebanon. We are against Lebanon providing any gains. We insist on the position spelled out in the Security Council resolutions: unconditional withdrawal. They do not want to withdraw, we refuse to have them stay, so we act accordingly. This leads us to the issue of the resistance. You ask me if resistance is the only way. I never said that resistance is the only way. I simply said that this was the means available to us, and the option that faces us. If the world does not want us to resist, let them get Israel out. As I have repeatedly said, we cannot wait for anybody. We cannot wait for the United Nations, the United States, the Soviet Union or West Europe. We waited in Palestine, and look what happened. We waited in the occupied Arab territories, and we know the result.

In Lebanon we will not wait. We will not wait for the help of international agencies, of friendly states or even of sister states. We will not wait for anybody. Israel will have no peace on our land. We do not consider it our task to liberate Palestine, but it certainly is our job to liberate Lebanon from Israeli occupation.

[As-Sa'id] What is your comment on the Israeli threat to delay its withdrawal from Lebanon if the Ad-Dubayyah office is closed? Do you think this is what will happen?

[Shams ad-Din] In the first place, I would like to express my respect and admiration for the early declaration by Prime Minister Karami on the need for the closure of the Ad-Dubayyah office, and, secondly, I would like to pay tribute to (former) Speaker 'Usayran for ordering the withdrawal of Lebanese Army personnel from the office. I would like to praise both these steps, which were in keeping with Lebanon's national dignity.

Israel will not withdraw. Our comment is that if the closure of the Ad-Dubayyah office is going to prompt Israel not to withdraw, that only exposes the real intentions of Israel and means that Israel had already decided not to pull out for reasons other than the Ad-Dubayyah office. This is final proof of the intention of Israel not to withdraw and of its determination to find pretexts or any kind of reason to justify its staying in Lebanon. This also indicates that Israel wants to establish relations with Lebanon by force.

[As-Sa'id] They have said that they are on the verge of closing down the Ad-Dubayyah office. What is your comment?

[Shams ad-Din] They are an occupation force and they can stay in Ad-Dubayyah, but without any Lebanese. Even when Lebanese personnel were present, they were not there as an expression of the Lebanese will. Not at all. Lebanon was never really present at the Ad-Dubayyah office at any time.

[As-Sa'id] How do you evaluate the results of the Israeli general elections?

[Shams ad-Din] The results of the Israeli elections have confirmed our expectation that there would not be any drastic change in Israeli policies towards Lebanon and towards the Arabs. The very narrow margin of votes is far too small to be decisive. The Labor Party must enter into an alliance with the small religious parties if it is to form a cabinet. This, in turn, requires that it make concessions to appease the extremist views of these parties. In fact, we expect Israeli policies to become even worse.

[As-Sa'id] We conclude from what you are saying that even if the Labor Party succeeds in the Israeli elections and forms a government, there will be no change in Israeli policies towards south Lebanon or on the withdrawal of their troops from Lebanon. Is this a valid conclusion?

[Shams ad-Din] We believe that the basic elements of Israeli policies are fixed, even though there might be differences in the way these policies are administered. Likewise, there are differences in the style and in the temperament of the various figures who administer these policies in the successive governments. Human beings differ. The thrust of basic Israeli policies, however, does not change. Consequently, we do not attach much importance to the continuation of Likud in office, or its replacement by the Labor Party. We do not think such a change has any significance. Once we can detect basic changes, rather than changes of style and form, we will be glad to admit that we have been mistaken. It would be short-sighted, naive and irresponsible for us to adopt different positions in anticipation of expected changes in Israeli policies. We act on the basis of the fact that Israeli policies are based on force, because Israel only believes in the logic of power. The Labor Party announced that it will withdraw. I will be glad to admit that I am mistaken if they withdraw unconditionally. If they want conditions, then they are just like Likud, which is also willing to withdraw under its conditions, and the May 17 agreement is an example of the conditions they will accept. Shamir is ready to withdraw under conditions. Peres is also willing to withdraw under conditions. The basic formula is the same. Begin and Shamir never expressed a willingness to withdraw unconditionally and they said that they would stay on in Lebanon as long as they wanted to. Peres will say the same. He will say that he will not withdraw unconditionally. This means that the policies are intrinsically the same. They might move a tank center from one place to another, or shift troops from one location to another, but these are minor issues.

[As-Sa'id] How do you conceive the political settlement?

[Shams ad-Din] Our view on the security issue is clear and we have stated it publicly on several occasions. In fact, I referred to it earlier in this interview. I can best sum up that position by saying that I have ruled that violation of security is a breach of religious law. On the political level, I do not approve closing the political file (debate) on the basis of the settlement proposed because I do not approve of this settlement and I regard it as unfair and I do not believe that it will ensure stability in Lebanon and spare the country future troubles. We believe the real political solution must be based, as we have advocated, on the elimination of the sectarian system — lock, stock and barrel — and on the adoption of the concept that Lebanon is not composed of sects but, like other political societies in the world, is composed of individual citizens who choose their political system, regardless of their religious or sectarian affiliations, on the basis of popular democracy.

Lebanese Forces' Command Attacks Birri Stand

NC061836 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Forces' Command Council on 6 August]

[Text] The Lebanese Forces' Command Council has studied the items on its agenda and has made the appropriate administrative, security, and political decisions. The conferees discussed at length the following points and they wish to declare:

1. The situation in West Beirut continues to be disturbed as is reflected by daily clashes. All the leaderships in the area have not been able to stop these clashes, although they have condemned them and have called for the withdrawal of the gunmen. The recurrent attacks against the Christians on the main roads and kidnapping them from their houses and business firms continue to spread an atmosphere of terror, thus making it impossible for officials and businessmen, who have been terrorized for more than 6 months, to report to their work places. Official and private establishments which are urging their employees to report to their work places and warning them that they will be dismissed and that measures will be taken against them if they do not comply, should wait before making their decisions and should stop issuing warnings. The Lebanese Forces, which are eager for the safety of all citizens, do not accept that the citizens should be ordered to their work places under the threat of being fired so that they may fall into the trap of kidnapping and terrorism. It is better for all these establishments to share the citizens' feelings and not to exploit their need to make a living in order to turn them into an easy morsel in the mouth of terrorism and death. These establishments should wait until the state's security plans succeed in providing a comprehensive and stable security.

2. Concerning Minister Nabih Birri's cheap and obvious exploitation of the case of contracted teachers, exactly the same way he has previously exploited the question of the kidnapped persons, we say that this stand and blackmail to obstruct the Cabinet is proof of the sterility of Birri's participation in the Cabinet. Some people thought that this participation would make Birri more responsible. Setting aside the educational dimension and the negative effects of confirming teachers without attending selection boards and without possessing specialized educational certificates, the Lebanese Forces reject the secterian hegemony which is being gradually imposed by filling vacant posts with non-Christians or by imposing 3,500 teachers on the Lebanese standard of education, which will necessarily result in a new drop in the standard of certificates. Minister Birri wants us to lower the standard to that of other states. The Lebanese Forces further oppose that Minister Birri should exploit an administrative and educational issue and use it as blackmail to obstruct the security plan for the mountain. Minister Birri wants to prevent any Druze-Christian rapproachment. He sets impossible conditions regarding the problem of the road to the south, knowing that the solution is not in the hands of the Lebanese Forces or the Socialist Party. The issue of the road to the south is not the same as the issue of the roads to West Beirut, Khaldah, and the airport. He should make these roads free for movement and he should not permit kidnapping and indiscipline, which has not stopped at all since the implementation of the security plan in Beirut.

Phalange Official Criticizes Junblatt Statements

NC060541 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Dr Elie Karami, deputy leader of the Phalange Party, has stressed that the party supports what [former] President Camille Sham'un is doing within the context of the security plan for the mountain and general political action. There is full cooperation manifested in the joint meetings held between the committees of the Phalange and the National Liberal Parties. Dr Karami said Walid Junblatt's recent statements on the return of the evacuees to the mountain are totally contradictory to his commitments during the joint meetings. He added: We do not know what makes him change his mind, but we leave him the opportunity to return to his positive stands. This is an important and basic matter for everybody, for the evacuees and for Junblatt himself.

'Intransigent' Phalangists Hinder Security Plan

NC061802 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Intensive political contacts are now underway between the government and the parties concerned to push forward the pacification process which recently collided with an intransigent stand by the Phalangists regarding the implementation of a balanced security plan. The Phalangists recently refused to hand over the fifth dock [at Beirut port] to the legitimate authorities and prevented the implementation of the plan deep inside the eastern areas in Jubayl and Kasrawan. The Phalangists do not want their areas to come under the laws of the legitimate authorities. They want the law of the militias to be applied there.

Junblatt Followers Receive Weapons From Syria

NC031252 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text]Security reports have indicated that Junblatt gunmen have brought officers of the pro-Syria As-Sa'iqah organization to train Junblatt's followers in a camp that has been set up in Ash-Shuwayfat. Other officers were given the job of reorganizing the military structure of the Progressive Socialist Party gunmen.

It is worth noting that differences have erupted among Junblatt's followers, particularly among military sectors in the mountain area. Meanwhile, security reports have indicated that consignments of weapons, ammunition, and artillery shells have recently arrived from Syria and were distributed at the Junblatt posts on the mountain and in Ash-Shuwayfat and Al-Awza'i.

Voice of the Mountain Comments on Junblatt Trip

NC031509 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] During his visit to Damascus, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt discussed with Syrian officials the latent motivations behind the attempts made by some officials to impede the security plan and the reluctancy to honor the agreements previously reached in Damascus — agreements which have found their expression in the government statement. Both sides were unanimous in their rejection of the conduct of some Lebanese officials. They also underlined the need to open all international highways at the same time and to give more effort and attention to the situation in the north. Meanwhile, Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri are continuing their contacts to coordinate their stands and consolidate their alliance in order to deal with the requirements of this stage.

PSP Radio Sets Conditions on Mountain Plan

NC031653 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] At a time when we are seeking to make the security plan in Beirut successful and to consolidate it, and at a time when we have made all preparations for implementing the security plan in the mountain, we have been taken by surprise. We now see that the government has reverted to exercising a policy of maneuvering and evasion in a wager on the time factor, disavowing previous experience. The results of this practice are well known to everyone in Ash-Shahhar, in Beirut's southern suburb, and in Beirut.

As for Beirut, the security plan there is still susceptible to collapse for several reasons. Certain Army organs are offering arms and funds to suspect groups with the aim of inciting sedition in Beirut. This was proved by incidents during the past few days following the Army's deployment in West Beirut. The fifth dock in Beirut's port is also still under the control of the Lebanese Forces, which refuse to turn it over to the legitimate authorities. Differences still exist over supplies for the Army brigades entrusted with maintaining security in Beirut. The 5th Brigade is equipped with the most modern weapons and equipment, whereas the 6th Brigade does not have the equipment necessary to perform its tasks. This brigade has to wait 6 months, according to military and political officials, for a deal to be signed with the United States. Who knows what is behind this deal?

We have called for implementing the security plan in the mountain for a long time, have provided all the facilities for it, and have created a positive atmosphere for it. But it seems that the government wants to deviate from the real substance on which agreement was reached in Damascus and Bikfayya and during the bilateral meetings between the official side and the parties concerned with the plan. The government also wants to blackmail the nationalist group through the plan it recently proposed — a plan opposed by the sons of the mountain and their representatives. It was opposed because it is no different from the plan previously proposed by the government, which resulted in massacres in Kafr Matta and the mountain war.

How can we accept the government's plan, which provides for the Army's deployment in Qabr Shmun, Baysur, Kayfun, 'Aytat, Ash-Shuwayfat, and Khaldah, and for increasing its deployment toward Ad-Damur and up to 'Alayh, Bhamdun, Sawfar, and Al-Qurayyah? How can we accept this at a time when the Lebanese Forces, as well as the government, refuse to deploy the Army toward Tripoli, refuse to remove the military roadblock on the Beirut-Tripoli road, and refuse to deploy the Army toward Sidon and the Al-Awwali River? Are not the Beirut-Tripoli Road and the Beirut-Sidon Road international roads such as the Beirut-Damascus highway? Why do they want to remove the Progressive Socialist Party's and the Amal Movement's roadblocks from the main roads, but keep the highwaymen in their positions in As-Sa'diyat and Al-Barbarah? Is this the government's current logic? Is this a balanced policy? Is this security by accord? Finally, is this an accord in the wake of these proposals?

We will not accept the Army's deployment in the heart of the mountain if this deployment is confined to our areas. How can a brigade such as the 11th Brigade maintain security in its assigned areas when it has only a small number of rifles, whereas the 10th, 5th, and other Brigades are linked with the Army Command and policy and are close to the Phalangists, and the Lebanese Forces control of most of the Lebanese Army equipment? Why does the government continue to view things erroneously, and why is it reverting to evasion and maneuvering? Why does it want to dilute and distort the security plan in the mountain?

If we are lenient about the Army issue and set aside certain conditions in order to make the security plan successful and create an atmosphere suitable for discussing political and administrative reforms, will we be answered with maneuvering, omitting facts, and exploiting our positiveness to muzzle our voice so they can complete their domination plan? We would also like to ask the government about its reverting to its previous policy. Does it believe that we approved the security plan and agreed to calm the situation out of weakness? The government knows the truth.

We would like to say clearly and frankly to all those concerned with the security plan in the mountain, to those who hinder it — who linked it with the return of the evacuees — and to those who proposed the recent plan, that we supported and will continue to support a security plan for Lebanon as a whole, particularly in the mountain.

We are not prepared, however, to defy the citizens' feelings and to return the Army to the villages that it destroyed and whose populations it murdered. Everyone knows that until now, no member of this Army has been called to account for the massacres it perpetrated. We support a comprehensive and balanced security plan, but we will not accept a plan that will give the government or the Phalangists what they failed to impose in the previous battles.

VOL Reports on Stages of Mountain Security Plan

NC050632 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The mountain security plan and the return of displaced persons to their areas is a test of good will. In spite of opposition statements for local consumption, there are positive indications giving some hope that the Cabinet will possibly approve tomorrow the mountain plan, the implementation of which, will follow at a later date. The first stage of the plan is reported to include the reopening of the following roads: The Beirut-Damascus highway which will be divided into two security areas, the first from Beirut up to Sawfar will be controlled by the Lebanese Army, and the second from Sawfar up to Al-Masna' will be controlled by the Syrian Army; the coastal highway from Beirut up to Ad-Damur; and the Suq al-Gharb road. The second stage will include the reopening of the coastal highway southward up to the Al-Awwali and northward up to Nahr al-Kalb. It will be accompanied by Army deployment deep in the mountain. The third stage will include the reopening of the coastal highway up to Al-Madfun and will be accompanied by Army deployment in Kasrawan and Al-Matn.

Amal Movement Deploying Mechanized Patrols
NC050709 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Information available to us says that members of the Amal Movement in Lebanese Army uniforms are deploying mechanized patrols during the night along the airport road and in Burj al-Barajinah, Shatila, and Al-Barbir. These patrols are under the supervision of 'Ali al-Ghadban, alias Al-Abras. The information also says that the Amal Movement has sent some of its members to Syria for arms training under the slogan of: Resistance against the Israeli forces.

RFL Reports on Palestinian, Syrian Movements
NC041215 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] In the western area of Beirut, the security reports today said that gunmen of various organizations are continuing to appear in the streets of the area particularly in the vicinity of military centers. In this context the Al-Murabitun have received weapons and ammunition from Libya. These weapons passed through Syrian territory and some of them were distributed in Barr Ilyas and Qabb Ilyas, while another part of them was transported to Beirut in Al-Maqasid civil defense cars. Officials of the PFLP have undertaken to bring some of these weapons to West Beirut. This weapons deal includes RPG's, heavy caliber machine guns, 60-mm and 82-mm mortars, and machine guns.

Moreover, security reports have indicated that a group of about 100 Palestinians, most of whom are members of the Democratic Front, for the Liberation of Palestine, has moved from Al-Biqa' by way of the mountain by using the 'Aramun-Ash-Shuwayfat road and deployed in the southern suburb of Beirut in the Palestinian camps in Burj al-Barajinah, Shatila, and Sabra. This group travelled by cars and in civilian clothes while trucks camouflaged with branches transported the weapons. The travel operation was facilitated by Amal Movement officials and Junblattists in return for money.

In Riyaq near the 51st Brigade Command headquarters and the Saint Anne school, new tanks for the Syrian forces, equipped with radar devices, were seen today. The Syrians set up roadblocks in the area and a large number of Syrian military police deployed in the area.

RFL on Military Activity in West Beirut
NC061131 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Security reports reveal that the Amal Movement has turned what is left of the Sports City [in West Beirut] and its vicinity into a training camp, a prison for kidnapped persons, and a warehouse for heavy weapons. The military leadership and its affiliated security organs have imposed strict security measures in the Sports City's vicinity.

Gunmen in civilian clothes from various organizations have reappeared in the Al-Barbir-Cornich al-Mazra'ah-Tallat al-Khayyat area. They began reconnaissance patrols in civilian cars. Gunmen continue to reappear on side streets, particularly near military positions.

It was learned that trucks and cars belonging to the Al-Maqasid [Sunnite] civilian defense unloaded weapons and ammunition in the Al-Murabitun's warehouses in the Abu Shakir, At-Tariq al-Jadidah, and Corniche al-Mazra'ah areas.

RFL Says Christian Kidnapped in Beirut 6 Aug
NC061619 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The kidnapping of Christians in West Beirut and its southern suburb is increasing. Personnel manning an armed roadblock in the 'Aramun area have kidnapped Riyad Yusuf Ja'ja' and his fate remains unknown. In the airport and the port, customs employees and workers went on strike today protesting the continued holding of their kidnapped colleagues Halabi and Abu Khalil. They demanded that the kidnapped persons be released immediately.

Weapons Shipment From YAR Arrives in Tripoli
NC061145 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A ship carrying heavy weapons from the YAR to the Fatah organization has arrived in Tripoli. The weapons were in fact received by the Islamic Unification Movement, which brought them into Tripoli. The movement put part of the weapons aside to be sent to Beirut.

Reportage on Resistance Efforts in South

Resistance Threatens Collaborators
NC050614 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 043 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Resistance members carried out two operations against occupation forces in the south yesterday. The first operation was launched against an Israeli stronghold in Al-'Uqaybah. Its outcome is not known because of the tight security cordon imposed there. The second operation involved the detonation of an explosive charge on the Sidon-Jazzin road. This resulted in damaging a military vehicle and wounding its crew.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese resistance front has threatened to assassinate any person who continues to collaborate with the Israeli occupation forces. The front says that it is giving these persons 10 days to end their dealing with the enemy.

Rocket Fired
NC050903 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0817 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] This morning the Israeli Forces cut the roads between Jba' and Jarju' and the nearby villages when Lebanese national resistance fighters fired a rocket against a concentration of the so-called army of southern Lebanon. The rocket explosion was followed by intensive firing from heavy- and medium-caliber weapons. The number of casualties is unknown.

Patrol Attacked in Tyre

NC061403 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters attacked an Israeli enemy patrol with rockets and machine guns in the vicinity of Tyre Port this morning. There have not been any details about the operation because of a security cordon imposed by the occupation forces.

Bursts of gunfire were heard in An-Nabatiyah at dawn today. The occupation forces fired flares illuminating the area. No details are yet available.

The occupation forces have established a new military center near An-Numayriyah township junction in An-Nabatiyah district. They set up sand barriers and watchtowers around the center.

The occupation forces this morning began building an airfield on (Tallat as-Saknuniyah) in the Az-Zahrani area. Bulldozers were seen leveling the earth.

Israelis Reportedly Stop Partial Withdrawal

NC050633 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The Israeli Forces have adopted new measures in southern Lebanon where they stopped the partial withdrawal which they began earlier this month. These measures follow the intensification of operations against the Israeli Army. There were over 20 operations in 1 week.

Iran's Rafiqdust Arrives in Damascus

LD031735 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, arrived in Damascus today at the head of a delegation to meet with Syrian officials. According to a report by the Central News Unit, the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in an interview at Damascus airport, paid tribute to the resistance and steadfastness of the Syrian nation and government in confronting Zionism and imperialism and said that this visit is aimed at strengthening the friendly relations between the two nations.

Palestinian Figures Meet Vice President Khaddam

LD042022 Kuwait KUNA in English 1858 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 4 Aug (KUNA) — A leading delegation of the Democratic Alliance led by Nayif Hawatimah, the secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine this evening had a meeting with the Syrian vice president, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Sources of the Democratic Front said that talks focused on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena, the situation inside the PLO, results of the Algiers talks and the dialogue between the Democratic Alliance and the National Alliance, and Syrian-Palestinian relations. The meeting was attended by the assistant deputy secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, 'Abu 'Ali Mustafa, and the assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh.

Al-Ahmar Receives Iraqi, Lebanese CP Members

JN061404 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1325 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 6 Aug (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, met here today with Comrade Fakhri Karim, member of the Iraqi Communist Party. He also met with Comrades Nadim 'Abdallah as-Samad and George Batai, members of the Lebanese Communist Party Political Bureau. During the two meetings, they exchanged views on the development of events in the Arab arena in general and in the Lebanese arena in particular. They reviewed the national and progressive Arab forces' role in confronting imperialist and Zionist designs. They also discussed confronting the Zionist enemy from Syria, the main confrontation base, which epitomizes courage and honor under President Hafiz al-Asad and is the main base for liberation, progress, and victory.

Talas Addresses Army Graduation Cermony

JN062118 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, a new group of students of Martyr Major Engineer 'Isam ibn Kan'an Kan'an at the Al-Asad Military Engineering Academy graduated this morning. General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, appeared for the president.

Gen Talas gave a speech in which he conveyed President al-Asad's greetings to his graduate sons and his wish for further success and progress in their military career. Gen Talas indicated that the graduation of the sixth class of the Al-Asad Military Engineering Academy coincided with the 39th anniversary of the Syrian Arab Army — an army which since its establishment has chosen to be the Arab nation's army and defender of its just causes.

He said: Since 8 March, this Army has become the working masses' army and defender of the revolution's achievements. The role of this Army was reinforced following the blessed corrective movement, led by Comrade President Hafiz al-Asad. Our Armed Forces have since become the nation's shield and defender of the Arab land.

The general noted U.S. policy, which is trying, through the Zionist entity and the tools of agentry in the region, to implement its aggressive, defeatist designs. He said that this policy managed to involve the Egyptian regime, and the result was the Camp David agreements.

It tried to do the same with Lebanon in an attempt to destroy its Arabism. The result was the 17 May agreement, which failed to succeed in this region. Moreover, U.S. policy tried to deploy its agent tools such as 'Arafat and Saddam in an attempt to create a suitable climate for peddling its aggressive designs within Arab ranks. However, the role of these capitulationists were exposed to our people after they revealed their agentry and their submissiveness to the White House in begging for peace.

Despite all this, Syria, under the historic leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, managed to foil all defeatist and capitulationist attempts. It managed to remain a steadfast bastion against imperialist and Zionist ambitions. He said: President Hafiz al-Asad foiled the U.S. equation. He used his wise policy to take Lebanon to security and stability.

Talas told the graduates: From a position of responsibility, I ask each of you to work day and night until President Hafiz al-Asad's slogan of achieving strategic balance with the Zionist enemy is achieved. O graduates, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate you and to inform you that the leadership has agreed to your suggestion to name the class after the hero Martyr Major Engineer 'Isam Kan'an. I sense from your request clear proof of your adherence to the leader of the march's eternal slogan: Martyrdom or victory.

Concluding his address, Talas said: I thank this academy's efforts — the efforts of the director, teachers, and instructors who produced this group of heroes. I greet you. I greet our great people. I greet the socialist countries, the foremost of which is the friendly USSR. President Hafiz al-Asad, the symbol of our struggle and leader of our march, has our affection, admiration, and respect. We give him our pledge to follow his wise leadership on the struggle path, regardless of the price and the sacrifice.

Athens Radio on Trade Talks in Damascus

NC061209 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1100 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A railway-ferry link between Greece and Syria — from Volos to Latakia — is expected to become operational by 1986. During the fourth inter-ministerial meeting, held in Damascus, Greek and Syrian delegations agreed to establish a joint Greek-Syrian firm to properly utilize, coordinate, and supervise this project. This was stated by Kostis Vaitsos, alternate national economy minister, who led the Greek delegation to the Damascus talks. The same meeting also discussed the purely trade relations between the two countries. The Syrian side showed interest in the purchase from Greece of foodstuffs, canned products, citrus fruits, cereals, olive and seed oil, chemicals, medicines, paper, building material, electrical equipment, and aluminium and steel products. Greece is mainly interested in the purchase of Syrian oil, some chemical products, and mineral salt. The pertinent contracts will be signed in September.

The Damascus meeting also discussed the possibility of mixed Greek-Syrian enterprises in the fields of foodstuffs, automobiles, refrigerators, metal silos, furniture and health centers. The possibility of cooperation for the construction of land improvement projects in Syria by Greek technical firms was also examined.

AL-BA'TH on 'Return of U.S. Militarism'

JN050744 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 5 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its comment today, *AL-BA'TH* deals with the return of U.S. militarism to the region, affirming that Washington has again resorted to the policy of force by parading its warships, planes, and fleets as if to prove to the world that it does not know any other language. *AL-BA'TH* adds: While talking about the return of U.S. militarism to the area, we must recall the U.S. intervention 2 years ago when the United States took part in the invasion of Lebanon by approving the Israeli decision at that time and by a military show of force that was almost unprecedented in history. However, the direct U.S. intervention was coupled with the attempt to spread U.S. domination, not only in Lebanon, but throughout the entire Arab region. Arab Syria had the honor of initiating the heroic Arab stand and of realizing the great Arab victory and the resulting defeat of the U.S. policy in form and substance.

The paper says: The victory was a great one and the U.S. defeat was devastating. After the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, the withdrawal of the U.S. Marines and Multinational Forces, and the beginning of the Lebanese national reconciliation, the United States began revising its calculation through intensive diplomatic activity or, let us say, through a comprehensive survey of the region. It seems that the U.S. Administration returned to square one after all these calculations, that is, to the policy of force.

As the White House calculations indicate, the return to the policy of force was prompted by more than one reason. The most important was the U.S. Administration's international disregard of past lessons and its refusal to benefit from them. The other reasons are inherent in U.S. policy. President Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly asserted that in our region there are Israeli decisions that the United States is implementing.

Concluding its comment, *AL-BA'TH* says: Israel is in a serious crisis which emerged after the elections. The reason for this crisis is that the leaders of the Zionist entity and its political parties are bent on aggression and expansion. The way out of this crisis could be a military solution. This conforms to U.S. calculations; hence Washington's approval of the Israeli decision is looming on the horizon.

The return of U.S. militarism to the region has begun in the Red Sea. The pretext is protecting the Gulf's interests and security. Did the pretext of protecting Lebanon 2 years ago succeed so well that this new pretext can be suggested?

Damascus Urges Arab Caution on U.S., Israel

JN061453 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Hayim Herzog has enstrusted Alignment leader Shim'on Peres with the formation of the new Israeli Government in his capacity as leader of the largest parliamentary bloc to be returned to the Knesset in the recent election. News media are unanimous that the general trend in Israel leans toward the formation of a national unity government comprising the Alignment, the Likud, and representatives of small parties to ensure a parliamentary majority of all inclinations.

It is too early to talk about the type of government that will be formed in Israel since there is still room for maneuvering that may either delay its formation or necessitate the assignment of another prime minister-designate. Therefore, the time now being wasted in political maneuvering and ministerial contacts and consultations serves only one purpose: To delay Israel's handling of the crises it is facing as well as its fulfillment of its international obligations, especially implementation of the UN resolutions concerning Palestine and the Middle East.

It is a fact that the Israeli parliamentary elections and the U.S. presidential elections have been exploited in a most loathsome manner to hamper the efforts of the United Nations and the international community to achieve the Israeli invasion forces' withdrawal from Lebanon and the implementation of UN resolutions concerning Palestinian rights and Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory. It is not unusual for Israel to exploit election results, the composition of a new Knesset, and the formation of the new government to avoid responding to the pressing demands by the United Nations and the international community and honoring binding UN resolutions concerning withdrawal from Lebanon, Palestinian rights, and evacuation of the occupied territories. Therefore, the Arabs should not link their efforts for just peace based on UN resolutions and their struggle for regaining their usurped rights and liberating their occupied territory to government developments in Israel or to the presidential elections in the United States. Waiting for any positive developments in Israel or the United States is like waiting for a mirage.

The arrival of Peres at the head of the Israeli Government may serve as a kind of bait for those Arabs eager to ride the bandwagon of the U.S. solution. But regardless of these people's enthusiasm, the arrival of Peres in the manner dictated by the Knesset's present circumstances cannot tempt them to take the risk and swim against the sweeping Arab national current. Those who pinned their hopes on Peres because of certain promises concerning Lebanon and other issues today find themselves abandoned. Peres cannot act freely in Israel, nor can his announced program persuade a single sincere and devout Arab child to believe that it can achieve a just and durable solution through direct negotiations or through the United States, especially since the Arabs already know how far Anwar as-Sadat got in his direct negotiations with Israel through the United States.

A just solution that guarantees the liberation of the Arabs' territories, the restoration of their rights, and the containment of Israeli expansionist plans cannot come through the political parties that assume power in turn, disagree on details, but agree on the aims of expansion, aggression and the use of force. Nor can it come from the U.S. Administration that has linked its Middle East policy to the policy of its strategic ally, Israel.

The Arabs' path to just, lasting, and comprehensive peace is that which creates the material and moral circumstances that will make the Israeli enemy respect the principles of the UN Charter and resolutions and international law. It is the one that will turn Israel's use of force into a setback with far-reaching effects for Israel itself and any U.S. intervention in the Israeli enemy's favor into a catastrophe for U.S. interests and presence in the region.

If the Arabs unify their efforts and devote their resources to the confrontation with the Israeli enemy, they would be able to create the required circumstances, especially since the invasion of Lebanon has proven that Israel cannot enforce its will on the region even through war and invasion.

AL-BA'TH on Israeli Government Under Peres

JN060707 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 6 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "With the Events" column, the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* comments on entrusting Shim'on Peres with the task of forming a new Zionist government. *AL-BA'TH* says: It was obvious to all that the United States, Western Europe, and Arab reactionaries were wagering on Peres as being more qualified than Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to lead the process of liquidating the Palestine question especially after the Likud, led by Menahem Begin, had accomplished two main tasks — removing Egypt from the arena of struggle by signing the Camp David accords, and forcing the Palestinian resistance out of southern Lebanon and Beirut by invading Lebanon in 1982. However, this wagering ended in great disappointment because the Labor Party failed to obtain a majority that would qualify it to undertake that task without being exposed to the conditions and pressures of the small parties and without having a weak prime minister whose government could receive a motion of nonconfidence at any time.

Therefore, whether Peres succeeds or fails in forming a new government will not change Israel's position and the nature of its aggressive moves. Neither parties nor figures determine Israel's course, particularly at a time when it is in need of prominent leaders. What determines its course are the strategic principles on which its aggression, expansion, and usurpation are based. These principles are drawn up by the Zionist movement in a manner that serves its interests and those of imperialism, which is allied with it.

Concluding, the paper says: Despite all the crises Israel underwent and despite all the difficulties it encountered, nothing prevented it from continuing its plans to annex and threaten the occupied territories. These crises and difficulties did not obstruct its schemes and preparations in Lebanon, particularly with regard to intensifiying its concentrations opposite the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa'.

Israel is a military concentration that has certain intentions and aims. The Israeli crises, elections, and political differences are only a framework by which Israel is trying to beautify that ugly picture which distinguishes it from others.

ATH-THAWRAH on Israeli 'Provocations' in Lebanon

JN040735 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel and Attempts To Undermine the Lebanese National Accord March," *ATH-THAWRAH* says: The Israeli provocations against Lebanon and the Israeli gunboats' bombardment of the Lebanese coast clearly show the Israeli enemys' anxiety and hatred as a result of the developments in the Lebanese arena, particularly in wake of the formation of the national unity government and its measures to achieve security, stability, and national accord.

It is no coincidence that the new Israeli provocation took place in wake of the closure of the Israeli espionage office, the success of the operation in uniting Beirut, the removal of any partitioning manifestations, and the readiness to implement the security plan in the mountain. This provocation irrefutably proves that any step Lebanon adopts in implementing the security plan and entrenching stability on is territory is a step toward foiling the Israeli scheme to impose the enemy's hegemony on Lebanon and toward securing the necessary components for the liberation of southern Lebanon and the expulsion of the Israeli invaders from Lebanese territory.

The Israeli aggression must be an incentive to all Lebanese to speed up implementation of the security plan, respond to the government's measures, and work to entrench the national accord march. The Lebanese must also rise above any personal and transient differences because Lebanon's interest is the most important consideration. Lebanon's interest must be the top priority in Lebanese national action. The Lebanese Army's reply to the Israeli provocation yesterday is part of the task of confronting the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy, but the most important and basic part is that all Lebanese must rise to the level of the responsibility they shoulder in this stage for the liberation of Lebanon and its reconstruction, particularly since the initiative is now in the hands of the Lebanese and the national unity government. The Israeli and U.S. cards have been discarded one after the other, and the bets placed on them have lost. The only wager now is the one on Lebanon's unity, Arab affiliation, and stability.

Israel's provocations and aggressions will not succeed in concealing the dilemma the Zionist invasion of Lebanon is experiencing and the crises that have erupted in the Zionist society as a result of the Israeli enemy's failure and complete disappointment.

TISHRIN on Assistance Lebanese To Liberate South

JN050810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 5 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary today, *TISHRIN* deals with Israel's aggressive attempts at hindering the Lebanese Government's salvation march. *TISHRIN* affirms that the Lebanese people, who confronted and sacrificed for the sake of confronting the attempts of the Zionist-imperialist domination, and were able to defeat the enemies' plots, will not fear Israel's aggressions and crimes. The Lebanese people are now more determined than before to confront and foil these plots. Naturally, Syria, which made sacrifices for Lebanon, confronted Lebanon's enemies, and led it to the shores of safety, will remain at the side of the Lebanese people until they realize all their national and pan-Arab aims, until they restore complete stability and security, and until south Lebanon is liberated. Syria will unstintingly offer all possible assistance that may be required to liberate south Lebanon from the occupying invaders.

Anti-Lebanese Reconciliation Attempts Assailed

JN051247 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] When Syria declared that the Lebanese reconciliation constituted a strategic Syrian aim it was convinced that the abrogation of the 17 May agreement was not an end in itself but a means of foiling the imperialist-Zionist plot in the region, which aims at entrenching the Israeli occupation and restoring the U.S. domination.

True, the realization of security in Lebanon is the natural door for reconciliation. But security is closely connected with a political decision that should be made by the various warring factions in Lebanon. Perhaps this is the reason which prompted those parties, which stood to lose from the realization of security and reconciliation, to inflame the situation whenever signs of genuine detente in Lebanon appeared on the horizon.

Syria made it abundantly clear that those who bet on the Israeli factor or the U.S. assistance should reconsider their calculations, and admit that they had been betting on useless illusions. Therefore, the only plan that could bring about a secure, free Lebanon is to embark on a constructive dialogue with the other Lebanese forces to rebuild Lebanon — a dialogue which stems from an effective determination to realize reconciliation.

Syria declared that it would not allow tampering with the lives of the Lebanese brothers. It said that it was endeavoring to establish a unified, free, and secure Lebanon. Therefore, the task of embarking on this path cannot succeed unless all the Lebanese people take part in it. This was realized in Geneva and Lausanne. It was also agreed on it the Damascus meeting.

Today, the first phase of the Beirut security plan has succeeded despite the stalling and complications that accompanied it. Therefore the will to transfer Lebanon from a fragmented Lebanon into an Arab, free, proud, sovereign and independent Lebanon will triumph. Today, Lebanon is witnessing the beginning of the implementation of the second phase of the security plan. The Zionist enemy and its tools are still trying to hinder the implementation of this phase. This is because they are building their calculations on illusions, namely, that the foiling of this phase will restore the situation to what it was before. Therefore, they are trying to inflame the situation in the mountain and in north Lebanon. There is also the direct Israeli military intervention at the Nahr al-Barid camp and Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda'. They forget that the hands of the clock cannot be turned backward, now that the Lebanese people have adopted dialogue as a means of understanding, and resorted to realizing security as a means toward Lebanon's stability and building of new Lebanon.

It is true that the security plan sometimes hits snags and obstacles, but certainly nobody will allow these snags and obstacles to prevent and cancel the march of security and reconciliation. The Lebanese citizen is now looking confidently to the firm steps toward reconciliation. Therefore, he is convinced that the Syrian option, which placed Lebanon in an atmosphere of ending the fighting, is the only option to bring him to the shores of safety where he would be able to establish an Arab, free and sovereign and independent Lebanon.

Peres, Shamir End Talks; To Meet Again 9 Aug

TA061612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The meeting at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir ended after almost 2 hours. It was decided that the negotiating teams of both parties would resume their deliberations on the establishment of a unity government on Thursday.

Replying to a question by our correspondent Arye Golan, the Labor Party chairman said that he believes he should head the wide-based government, if one is established, and that this fact should not be disputed in view of the election results. The prime minister said that he had agreed with Shim'on Peres not to reveal details of their talk, although it was exhaustive and sincere.

Peres Comments

TA061635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman and Prime Minister-Designate Shim'on Peres by Arye Golan at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem at the end of the meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir "a few minutes ago" — recorded]

[Text][Peres] Mr Shamir and I talked for over 2 hours. This was a very sincere talk which covered most of the issues currently troubling Israel. This was not a formal talk.

[Golan] Sir, are you prepared to accept the condition posed by Minister David Levi that the issue of the premiership of a unity government should be open to negotiations?

[Peres] You know, I am now in a position where I cannot accept any conditions, as I have been empowered by the president to form the next government of the State of Israel. I will fulfill my duty in keeping with the Constitution [as heard] to the best of my ability. I think that this talk made plain to both of us many issues which called for clarification. As I said, the talk was held in a very friendly atmosphere and I would not like to elaborate.

[Golan] Mr Peres, what do you think about the fact that the Likud is pursuing its efforts to try to form a government without a mandate from the president?

[Peres] I do not think that the Likud will go ahead with it. I think that the statutory rules of the game should be maintained and I am convinced that the Likud will also honor them.

[Golan] Does Mr Shamir accept the fact that you should head the unity government, if such a government is formed?

[Peres] I have said that we agreed not to comment on the contents of our talk and I want to honor my commitment.

[Golan] In view of your meeting, what do you think has a better chance: a unity government or a narrowly-based government led by you?

[Peres] Why do you want to jump ahead of me or involve me in speculation? I hope there is a good chance of establishing a national unity government. I do not want to be prematurely optimistic and I do not want to speculate before the time comes.

Likud Said To Favor Rotating Premiership

TA071019 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Aug 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yehoshu'a Bitzur, Avi Bettelheim, and Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpts] The Likud leadership tends to favor the idea of a premiership rotating between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Knesset Member Shim'on Peres, who was asked to form a government by the president, as part of a national unity government. In the opinion of the Likud leaders, such an arrangement could be reached, provided it is combined with a fair distribution of important government portfolios.

The Likud leaders maintain that because voters granted the two large parties nearly equal power in the Knesset, and because neither Shamir nor Peres can at the moment put together a government with a parliamentary majority, the only conclusion to be drawn is that the two large parties must demonstrate flexibility in introducing guidelines that were accepted by previous governments of national unity and that will be more or less acceptable to both sides now.

The Likud leadership believes that the appropriate composition of a unity government in terms of the division of power between the two large parties should be as follows: While Shim'on Peres serves as prime minister, Shamir would be his deputy and foreign minister, and vice versa. The Likud and the Alignment would divide the defense and finance portfolios between them.

No special problems are anticipated in connection with the division of the other portfolios. The Alignment would want the agriculture portfolio in order to help the rural settlement movement, while the Likud would want to chair the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs.

Regarding settlement in the territories, a formula could conceivably be accepted, stipulating that the Judaea and Samaria settlement budget would be cut just as much as the settlement budget for the Negev and Galilee, so that the main bulk of the funds would be directed to strengthening and reinforcing existing settlements.

MAPAM Resolution Against Unity Government Fails

TA061930 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] In a meeting tonight MAPAM failed to pass a resolution against the establishment of a national unity government led by the Alignment, despite the fact that most of the speakers at the session voiced their objection to the establishment of such a government. Our correspondent Menashe Raz reports that it is still unclear how MAPAM will react if Shim'on Peres succeeds in forming a government with the participation of the Likud.

In that case, MAPAM may decide to leave the Alignment or to adopt Yosi Sarid's formula, according to which MAPAM would support an Alignment-led national unity government with a vote of confidence in the Knesset, but would not participate in it.

National Religious Party Rejects Settlement Freeze

TA061431 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 6 aug 84

[Excerpt] On behalf of the National Religious Party, Minister Yosef Burg rejected the Alignment's proposal to freeze settlement and make concessions to Jordan to enable negotiations with it.

However, our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that at a meeting with heads of the United Kibbutz Movement [affiliated with MAPAM], representatives of the Religious Kibbutz Movement agreed to freeze the establishment of new settlements. The Religious Kibbutz Movement Secretariat also said that it would not lend a hand to the establishment of a narrowly-based government led by either the Alignment or the Likud.

'Top Source' Says 50 Planned Settlements Frozen

TA070954 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Aug 84 p 8

[Tova Tzimuqi report from Jerusalem]

[Text] More than 50 planned settlements, the names of which appear in the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs' minutes, will not be established at all, or at least not in the foreseeable future. A top source told *DAVAR* yesterday that the settlements, which were approved on the eve of the election, can be added to the long list of frozen ones. The Treasury is refusing to allocate funds for the establishment of these settlements, meaning that the only money flowing in is going to settlements already established and which are in dire economic straits.

A recent investigation by the Jewish Agency's Land Settlement Department involving questions presented to the directors of various districts, indicates that even the settlements that were set up on the eve of the election have been settled by only a few families, and they cannot count on other families joining them.

On Sunday the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs will convene to discuss, among other things, the delay in the flow of funds earmarked for settlements.

Jews, Arabs March in Protest Against Kahana

TA050635 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
5 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Umm al-Fahm — Over 5,000 Jews and Arabs staged a joint protest march here yesterday against newly elected Knesset Member Me'ir Kahana, the KAKH leader who said that his first act after being sworn in would be to come to this Arab town and ask all the country's Arabs to leave.

In the West Bank, meanwhile, residents of the Gush 'Ezyon town of Efrat demonstrated last night to protest the uninvited presence of Kahana, who arrived together with a busload of supporters from outside the area for a well-advertised rally.

Among the participants in the Umm al-Fahm rally were Knesset Members Yosi Sarid, Muhammad Watad, Ya'ir Tzaban, Aharon Har'el, and MK-elect 'Abd al-Wahid ad-Durushi of the Alignment; MK-elect Ran Kohen of the Citizens' Rights Movement; MK Me'ir Wilner, Tawfiq Tubi and Tawfiq Zayyad of HADASH; and MK-elect Muhammad Mi'ari of the Progressive List for Peace. Many of the marchers were members of nearby kibbutzim.

Participants were greeted with coffee and cold drinks at the entrance to Umm al-Fahm and they then marched to the town's football field.

Protesters carried signs in Arabic, English and Hebrew denouncing Kahana's views as fascist and racist, and marchers chanted in Arabic "Kahana, get out, get out."

One sign in Hebrew said "There is no place for Nazism in Israel" and another in English said "Kahana belongs in the Ramat Gan Zoo."

While Kahana addressed his small crowd of supporters, over 100 people living in the town of Efrat gathered outside, shouting slogans condemning his presence and his policies. Earlier, residents had been contacted by the local council and asked not to attend the Kahana rally.

Recent Mining of Suez Canal Spurs Concern

TA050420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Israel is worried about the mining of the Suez Canal. Top political sources last night told our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer that it looks as though agents of Iran or Libya laid these mines from bases in South Yemen. Israel is waiting for the result of an investigation by a team of U.S. experts. British and French battleships are also due to arrive in the Red Sea, and will patrol the area in which some ships were hit by mines in the last few days.

Mining Jeopardizes Navigation

TA070815 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
7 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by Mikha'el Garti, 'Oded Zaray, Tzvi Bar'el, and the *HA'ARETZ* correspondents in Britain and France]

[Excerpt] A security source has explained that although the laying of mines in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez is evidently aimed at Egypt, Israel will not be able to sit back with its arms folded in light of a phenomenon that also jeopardizes free navigation to Elat.

Replying to a question by *HA'ARETZ*, a top military source said that the picture emerging indicates that sea mines or other bombs are being laid in two areas: one at the southern entrance to the Red Sea, near the Bab el-Mandeb Straits and the island of Perim, and the other at the entrance to the Suez Canal, between Ra's ('Adabiyah) and the town of Suez. It appears international mine-clearing operations are currently underway there.

Maritime observers told *HA'ARETZ* last night that the information about the mysterious explosions in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez is "bizarre," because despite the numerous reports about them, no photographs have to date been presented about the damages caused to the vessels. Furthermore, the reports themselves conflict in — among other things — reporting the number of ships hit or the dates of the explosions.

Further Worry Expressed

TA051652 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Israel is closely following the attempted disruptions of traffic in the waterways in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir made this statement at the weekly Cabinet session. Israel is also following developments concerning the Iraqi pipeline which is meant to reach Aqaba, and is taking steps with regard to this issue. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports:

[Begin recording] Besides the many political events, happenings beyond Israel's borders were also briefly discussed by the Cabinet at today's weekly session. One of the issues discussed was the mining incidents at the entrance to the Gulf of Suez and in the Red Sea.

Israel is closely following the events in these southern waterways which extend as far as its own borders. At the Cabinet session it was said that no additional information is held on this issue, beyond the official news reports.

Regarding the Iraqi pipeline which is to run through Jordan reaching Aqaba, Israel expresses its concern over the serious ecological effects this oil pipeline may produce. The prime minister said that the United States has indicated understanding of Israel's concern regarding this issue.

Interior Ministry Director General Hayim Kubersky is presently in Washington discussing, among other issues, the fact that Israeli interests may be harmed following the pipelines' completion. [end recording]

Minister Discusses Mining

TA071029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] This morning the transportation minister held a meeting with officials of the Ports Authority and the Shipping and Ports Directorate to discuss the mining of the Red Sea and its effect on Israeli navigation.

Talks on Aqaba Sewage Plant, Pipeline End in U.S.

TA061748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The talks in Washington about the threat to the tourist sites in Elat by projects being planned in Aqaba have ended. Our correspondent Elimelekh Ram believes that no practical results were achieved in the talks attended by Hayim Kubersky and Eli Rubinstein:

[Begin recording] It seems — and this has also been confirmed by sources at the Israeli Embassy in Washington — that we have missed the train. The sewage treatment plant has already been built with U.S. funds and very little can be done to prevent possible pollution of Israel's main tourist site, the town of Elat. One day of bad odors from the sewage plant would seriously harm tourism in Elat and one week of stench and a mosquito plague might destroy Elat as a tourist site for a long time, U.S. State Department officials were told.

The Americans, headed by Michael Armacost — substituting for Secretary of State Shultz who is on vacation — and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy realize our worry and promised a reply shortly. However, as said, very little can be done.

As for the oil pipeline which will run from Iran to Jordan through the Gulf of Aqaba, there is still room for maneuvering. Planning is still only on paper and some measures may be taken to prevent the pollution of the sea near Elat resulting from an oil leak. However, it should be recalled that the United States has a large interest in this pipeline. It will be built with U.S. steel and the works will be carried out by Bechtel, the company with which Secretary of Defense Weinberger and Secretary of State Shultz was previously connected. The pipeline will be financed by loans from U.S. banks guaranteed by the U.S. Government.

In sum, nothing was concluded in the talks conducted by Hayim Kubersky and Eli Rubinstein. Israeli concern was expressed, the United States expressed its understanding of this concern,and a follow-up should be expected. [end recording]

Knesset To Review International Treaties

TA070610 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] The Knesset will have a chance to express an opinion on international treaties Israel has subscribed to under new instructions issued by the Attorney-General Yitzhaq Zamir.

To date, international treaties and agreements concluded between Israel and other foreign states or international organizations have only been approved and confirmed by the cabinet. In exceptional cases, such as the Camp David Agreements and the Peace Treaty with Egypt, the government has submitted treaties for parliamentary debate and approval.

Following the English system the attorney-general has instructed the legal advisers of all government ministries to submit copies of the proposed treaties to the Knesset together with a schedule of the changes in Israeli domestic law they would require. The treaty may not be approved by the Cabinet for at least two weeks following its submission to the Knesset.

If the Knesset has taken any stand on the proposed treaty, there is now an obligation to bring this to the attention of the cabinet during its discussion of the issue.

The instructions make an exception for treaties requiring urgent or secret approval, but such cases require the prior consent of the foreign and justice ministers.

An-Najah University Chairman Grants Interview

TA031108 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Aug 84 Weekly Supplement pp 8, 9

[Interview with Hikmat al-Masri, chairman of the An-Najah University board of directors, by Pinhas 'Inbari — date and place not given]

[Text]['Inbari] Higher education in the territories is facing many difficulties, perhaps too many. Is there any future for the universities in the territories?

[Al-Masri] I cannot give you a clear answer... there are differences of opinion between the management of An-Najah University and the authorities. The Military Government wants calm. It does not want political or party activities, and it is natural that there are profound differences of opinion. In all the world, at all times, there are various opinions among students. The universities' administrations have more balanced opinions than the students. We have no authority to force our opinions on the students. For example, when there is a rebellion, the university management does not have the governing authority it has in independent states. This is the heart of the problem.

It is natural that there are problems between the students and the occupation forces... and there is also no avoiding problems between the universities' boards of directors and the occupation authorities, although not to the extent of the problems within the university between the students and the military authorities. This is why the problem is difficult and complicated — it will exist until a political settlement is achieved.

['Inbari] That is, the future of the universities hangs upon a political arrangement?

[Al-Masri] The unstable situation within the universities, the detentions, the punishments — all this will persist as long as there is occupation. It is natural. The universities are a part of the people. The opinions prevalent in the universities are different from those prevalent among the occupation authorities, and this results in a precarious situation in the universities. In independent states there is liberty and complete academic freedom.

['Inbari] But what about the things we saw in the students' exhibition — slogans in favor of military confrontation, models of Kalashnikov submachine guns — do you think such an exhibition can be accepted by a military governor, even in a free country?

[Al-Masri] True, such a viewpoint exists among the military authorities. However, the viewpoint in the university, and also among the board of directors, does not attach any importance to it.[sentence as published] The military authorities should not be so strict about every small issue, and should not take steps such as closing the university without prior warning. For example, the university has building and development plans, but the authorities are not happy about the state of affairs within the university, and therefore they have stopped the building. The development plans must be separated from what is happening in the university. We want to put up four or five new buildings. The work has been stopped for political reasons. They claim that there are problems in the university, but some of the problems stem from the halt to construction.

['Inbari] Is this the official explanation you received?

[Al-Masri] I presented plans and maps 2-3 years ago. As for answers and permits — delays...delays...delays..this can be seen as a form of punishment. I have no conflict of opinion with them concerning the changes which have to be made in the plans. We believe that we presented plans within the framework of the existing regulations. We started to build, and the work was stopped. We are always appealing to them on this matter, and they say: come tomorrow, come the day after tomorrow.... There is a man responsible for planning, I think he is a member of Gush Emunim. His name is Moskowitz. He says: it is inconceivable for me to give them a permit. The university is developing, but its progress is checked. The board of trustees is following a reasonable policy, but the authorities react to acts by the students by foiling the development of the university. The primary expression of this is stopping the building. I feel that the reason is not administrative but political.

['Inbari] It is no secret that another kind of problem is the conflict among the students themselves. Do you believe that these conflicts are within the legitimate limits, or do they too contribute to the great difficulties facing the university?

[Al-Masri] The conflicts exist, but the basic reason they exist is the occupation. We on the board of trustees do not accept everything the students do, but we cannot do everything we want to do within the university; just as they, the occupation authorities, cannot really control or stop phenomena in the streets — demonstrations, stonethrowing, and so on. They too cannot control....A middle of the road solution must be found, not an extreme solution like suspending studies for 4 months...this destroys the policy of the university and is very damaging to its students. The majority want to study, to finish their studies in other universities. They want to study and work. Only a minority create problems, and the innocent are punished.

['Inbari] When you linked the solution of the universities' problems with a political solution, were you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the universities?

[Al-Masri] Pessimistic. For the last 4 years we had the capability to develop the university, if not for these problems and Israel's efforts to paralyze the development of the university. To be frank, I will add that there are also groups within the university that are paralyzing its development. This last affair was unnecessary.

Study is the basis of every university. Everything which results in stopping studies — whether originating from the military authorities or a few students — works against the university.

['Inbari] According to the results of the elections in Israel, it is possible that an Alignment-led government will be established. Do you think that the situation in the territories — and also in the universities — will improve as a result of this?

[Al-Masri] The difference between the two big parties is that the ruling party is very extremist, and the Alignment is less extremist. Note that I did not say: those are extremist and those moderate. Indeed not; the Alignment is only less extremist. However, in questions which do not relate to security, Alignment members use their brains more than Likud members. Alignment members are slightly more flexible. For example, in the debate over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Alignment says it is willing to enter negotiations from initial positions which may be acceptable to the other side. This does not mean that they actually will be accepted.

['Inbari] What will be the position taken by Jordan if the Alignment — in the event it comes to power — sends peace signals?

[Al-Masri] In the past the Jordanian Government and his majesty said: We are willing to enter negotiations based on UN Resolution 242 through the mediation of Gunnar Jarring (UN special envoy to the Middle East in those days). He tried for 4 years, but did not even get a piece of land back. At present, if the Alignment comes to power, there is hope — even if only a little — that a way for negotiations will be opened. The Likud says: This is Eretz Yisra'el — we will not negotiate it. Therefore, what will the negotiations center around? In such a case, I as a Palestinian would have to negotiate the continuation of the occupation. Moreover, this makes me a stranger in my country, my homeland. I have lived here for hundreds of years, and I am looked upon as a stranger. Those who came only recently consider themselves the original inhabitants of the country. This does not make sense.

['Inbari] The political stalemate influences other issues in the West Bank, such as the issue of the mayors. What is your position on this matter?

[Al-Masri] I am talking about economic policy. This issue (mayors) is a branch of the trunk. They made a great mistake. The Jordanian segment says that the term of office is 4 years, and it may be extended for another year for various reasons. The terms of the mayors are completely over now. They must hold new elections. Giving the mayoral posts in the towns to Israelis was against the interests of West Bank residents. They acted stupidly. They must hold elections after 5 years; anything else is a violation of Jordanian law.

['Inbari] In that case, Bassam ash-Shak'ah is no longer a mayor?

[Al-Masri] Today the municipality (meaning the dispersed municipality) ended its term. This holds for the other local councils as well. The people voted for them for a 4-year term. This is what the law stipulates. Four years have passed, and another year of extension, and with them the term has also passed. At present, they can be regarded as "non-elected." They are no longer elected. They have no right to be mayors. According to Jordanian law, a mayor must be a Jordanian citizen and live in the town in which he holds office. These conditions do not exist today (referring to the Israeli mayors).

['Inbari] What about the proposal of the Civilian Administration to appoint Arab mayors?

[Al-Masri] The law allows for the appointment of "municipal committees," not municipal councils, for short periods only — 1 year, for example — and for specific purposes such as holding elections. In my opinion, the best solution is to hold elections. There is no other way. Not all the people agree to military governors appointing mayors for them. The residents do not find this agreeable. Look at the damage done...

['Inbari] To return to the general policy, could the Palestinians participate in negotiations between Israel and Jordan when UN Resolution 242 states that the negotiations should be held between states?

[Al-Masri] If Jordan enters negotiations on the basis of 242 and the Palestinians participate as well, possibilities will exist. The preference is for the PLO, as it represents the Palestinians. The PLO exists and you have no right to disregard it, just as an elected Israeli Government cannot be disregarded. You cannot come and say: I do not want this but rather that. This is not your business, it is our business. Israel's policy today is to disregard the PLO, disregard this and disregard that...

['Inbari] Israel says that the PLO calls for the destruction of Israel.

[Al-Masri] (in a belittling tone) This exists in the Palestinian charter... it is a very old matter. They no longer strive to attain this objective, which is unattainable. As to the claim that the PLO is a terror organization — you brought terrorists into your Knesset. Did you not elect terrorist Knesset members? Not only Kahana... what about the foul-mouthed chief of staff? How can they talk about the PLO when they have such representatives in the Knesset? There are one or two parties which call for the expulsion of the Arabs from this country. This takes the legitimacy from the anti-PLO argument. There are representatives in the Knesset who preach day and night for the expulsion of the Arabs. Those who will not leave willingly will be expelled by force. And I am not talking only about Kahana. There are others. Peace is not only in the interest of the Palestinians. It is also in Israel's interest and is essential for its existence and for stability in the area.

Arabic Broadcast on Syrian, PLO Role in Tripoli

JN031547 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1335 GMT 3 Aug 84

["Observation" by Sadoq Ben Me'ir]

[Text] In Tripoli, the birthplace of Rashid Karami and what is also said to be his political stronghold, bloody clashes continue, claiming dead and wounded almost every day. In such a situation, one would expect Karami to intervene strongly and effectively to put an end to this tragedy. The fighting in Tripoli is taking place between the militias of the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party and the militias of the anti-Syrian Islamic Unification Movement. The Syrian factor, therefore, is present here.

Actually, it is the same old bloody game which both sides once played but with only one difference. In the days when Yasir 'Arafat was in Tripoli, the clashes were between the pro-Syrian militias and the Fatah dissidents led by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], and the other Abu's on the one hand, and Yasir 'Arafat and his supporters and the Islamic Unification Movement militias on the other. Today, however, the clashes are between two elements whose identity is well known. Although these clashes are the result of Syrian interference in Lebanon, there is also another side to the picture which must not be overlooked by the Lebanese — namely, the exploitation of these clashes by the warring Palestinian terrorist organizations.

It is understood that since his forced departure from Tripoli following the bloody battles which the Fatah dissidents fought against him with Syrian and Libyan support, 'Arafat has been trying hard to smuggle back his supporters in order to regain his positions in Tripoli and to consolidate those positions that have been retained by his supporters through their clandestine presence there. One of the factors that help 'Arafat is the Islamic Unification Movement's continuous battling with pro-Syrian militias in that stricken city.

If the Lebanese had hoped that calm would prevail in the northern part of their country after 'Arafat's departure, indications are that the meddlers are determined to turn that hope into a mirage.

4 More Israelis Held Prisoner by Syria

TA050841 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Aug 84 p 4

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Text] Jordanian Television last night once again claimed that another four Israeli prisoners are still being held alive in Syria, in addition to the three Israelis being held prisoner by Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC. The Hebrew-language program's Jordanian anchorman said that a report to this effect broadcast on the same program about a month ago is very reliable. The anchorman responded to the doubts expressed in the Israeli Television Arabic-language program about the report's reliability, saying: "We do not have to reveal our sources."

Jerusalem Arabic on Salah Khalaf Statement

JN051557 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1335 GMT 5 Aug 84

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] In a statement published yesterday by the London-based *AT-TADAMUN* magazine, Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, called for the need to be vigilant and to define the sides that are trying to damage relations between the Fatah movement and Syria. This statement is ridiculous and is aimed at misleading people.

The ridiculous part lies in Abu Iyad's attempt to portray relations between Yasir 'Arafat and the Damascus rulers as undamaged, while saying that there are some sides trying to damage them. Everyone knows that there relations are damaged to the point of no return, and that they will continue this way as long as 'Arafat remains in his post and does not bow to the Damascus rulers' demands. On the other hand, the misleading part lies in Abu Iyad's disregard of a basic, known fact — namely, that the Damascus rulers have not and will never abandon their insistence on remvoing 'Arafat or on subjugating him and his supporters, especially after the bloody confrontation in Tripoli and in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi Camps last year.

The problem is not only in each side's honor or dignity, and it is not related to the Damascus rulers' concern about preventing any rapproachement between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn. The problem is much more complicated, and goes beyond the Damascus rulers' attempt to contain and dominate the organizations. It is related to the Damascus rulers' aims in the region, to their dreams of greater Syria, and to their wishes to lead the Arab world. Abu Iyad ignored all of these facts, and tried to cover them up in his statement to *AT-TADAMUN*. However, he is certainly aware of them and aware of the fact that he is one of Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] tools whom the Damascus rulers want to remove. Therefore, he is burying his head in the sand like an ostrich. Perhaps he is trying to move from his current trench.

Iraq Said To Seek Use of 2 Kuwaiti Islands

JN051713 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Baghdad today said that Iraq has officially asked Kuwait to allow it to use two Kuwaiti islands in order to watch Iranian ships moving in the northern part of the Gulf. These sources also said that in return, Iraq expressed its readiness to sign an agreement regarding border demarcation between the two countries. The sources added that the two Kuwaiti islands Iraq wants to use are the islands of Bubiyan and Faylakah, located in the northern Gulf.

These diplomatic source also disclosed that Iraqi RCC Deputy Chairman Ibrahim 'Izzat ad-Duri's talks with the Kuwaiti officials in Kuwait yesterday dealt with this issue in detail. These sources also attribute the Iraqi request to Baghdad's desire to watch the movement of the Iranian ships in this area, which Iraq has declared a war zone.

Egypt Buying Bromide Products Indirectly

TA070956 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Aug 84 p 7

[Text] The Egyptian Government is continuing to avoid purchasing bromide products directly from Israel, preferring instead to procure them through subcontractors in Europe, and for prices that are far higher as a result.

This was reported yesterday at a news conference held by the management of the Bromide Plants in the Hovav plateau of the Negev.

The company's profits in real terms for 1983/1984 reached $13 million, after tax deductions.

Ceaucescu Declines Herzog's Invitation To Visit

TA051750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] President Hayim Herzog has invited Romanian President Ceaucescu to visit Israel. The invitation was transmitted through the president of the World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman, who paid a visit to Romania. The Romanian president was thankful for the invitation but said he will be able to accept only when peace prevails in the region.

IDF: No Knowledge of Gunboat Incident

TA031514 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Beirut Radio has reported that the Lebanese Army opened fire at two Israeli gunboats which were trying to approach the coast, forcing them to turn back. Eyewitnesses in the neighborhood of Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda' by the seashore said that the Lebanese Army fired at the gunboats for 15 minutes and that the boats returned the fire. According to the witnesses, the Lebanese Army rushed soldiers and tanks to the area and started to fire at the boats. The IDF spokesman has said he has no knowledge of this incident.

Some Positions on Al-'Awwali Said Evacuated

TA050843 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Aug 84 p 4

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] "The Lebanese Opposition Front" in southern Lebanon last night announced that its members had carried out 22 attacks against IDF soldiers the previous week and that it now intends to step up its activities in the area. In pamphlets it distributed through the region, the Front warns people who collaborate with Israel to cut their connections within 10 days or else contracts will be put out on their lives.

Meanwhile, correspondents in the south have reported that the IDF yesterday evacuated several other positions on the Al-'Awwali River and handed them over to the army of southern Lebanon.

250 Anti-IDF Attacks Over Last 4 Months Reported

TA052000 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] There were 250 attempted attacks against the IDF in southern Lebanon over the last 4 months. Since the beginning of this month, approximately 20 more attacks were recorded.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that most of the terrorist acts occur in the strip of Shi'ite villages beginning in Tyre and extending through the An-Nabatiyah region to the Lebanese Al-Biqa' area in the eastern sector.

IDF Investigates 'Terrorist' Incident

TA061542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] An investigation conducted by the IDF shows that the mine which killed an IDF soldier yesterday in the eastern sector in Lebanon may have been planted recently. The investigation also shows that the squad which planted the mine may have come from the Ash-Shuf Mountains in the west and not from Syrian-controlled territory in the east.

Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal was informed of this by a senior officer in the eastern sector. The officer also said that the number of attacks in the sector has not changed and it is not certain that the Syrians know of the terrorist activities.

Searches Continue in An-Nabatiyah; Shops Closed

TA031708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Searches continued today in An-Nabatiyah, southern Lebanon, following the incident that occurred in the local vegetable marketplace yesterday. Nearly 50 shops were closed today, and our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the IDF and the army of southern Lebanon have not yet allowed some of the shops to reopen. It appears that the hand grenade that hit an IDF position yesterday, resulting in the death of Private Yuval Shalev, was hurled from the entrance of one of the shops.

Former Hebron Mayor Hits Desecration of Books

TA050923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Former Hebron Mayor Mustafa an-Natshah sharply denounced the desecration of the Jewish holy books. The books were found torn up near the Makhpelah Cave in Hebron last Firday. He believes that those responsible for the act should be severely punished. An-Natshah told our correspondent Jerry Cheslow that the Muslim believers do not differentiate between Jewish and Muslim holy books.

Banks Charged With Violating Regulations

TA050556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Israel's four biggest banks are being prosecuted under the cartel's law. The indictment names Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim, Bank Discount, and Bank Hamizrahi Hameuhad, and their managing directors, Ernest Japhet, Giyora Gazit, Eli Kohen, and Aharon Me'ir.

The charge sheet says that on the fifth of June last year they met at the offices of the Discount Bank in Tel Aviv, and agreed to keep down the interest paid on customers on a certain category deposit account. Such an agreement is illegal unless approved by the Ministry of Commerce and the Industries and Cartels Council.

The investigation was conducted over a long period by Ze'ev Gilmor, the official in charge of cartels at the Commerce Ministry. The indictment was submitted by the Attorney General's Department. It is the first time in the history of the state that the four big banks have been prosecuted on such a charge.

Briefs

Unemployment Increase — There was a sharp rise in unemployment last month, according to figures released yesterdayby the State Employment Service. These figures show that despite the placement of 2,000 workers for pre-election and election day duties, and despite the reduction in applications by workers who sought other employment connected with the election, there were still 37,589 job seekers at employment service offices in July compared with 31,428 in June, a 20 per cent increase. [Excerpt] [Jerusalem *THE JERUSALEM POST* in English 6 Aug 84 p 3 TA]

July Exports Statistics — Israel exported goods worth $398 million last month, 5 percent more than in July 1983, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. During the first seven months of the year, exports of goods totalled $3.1 billion, 10 percent more than during the similar period last year. Despite this apparent increase, the bureau also said that the last four months have seen a slowdown in exports. Adjusting for seasonal factors, the monthly level of exports was 3.5 percent lower than the monthly average for the first quarter of the year. [Excerpt] [Jerusalem *THE JERUSALEM POST* in English 7 Aug 84 p 1 TA]

ALGERIA

Briefs

Ambassadors to Zimbabwe, Libya — Zimbabwe has approved the appointment of Abdel Wahhab Karmal as Algeria's ambassador to Zimbabwe. Libya has approved the appointment of Mohamed 'Ali 'Ammar as Algeria's ambassador to Libya. [Summary] [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Aug 84 LD]

Ambassadors to FRG, Guinea-Bissau — Algiers, 06 Aug 84, (APS) — The Government of Federal Republic of Germany agreed to the nomination of Mr Amor Ben Ghezal in quality of extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Democratic Peoples Republic of Algeria before Federal Republic of Germany. Moreover, the Government of Guinea-Bissau Republic gave its agreement to the nomination of Mr Rachid Ben Cheikh El Fagoun in his quality extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Democratic Republic of Algeria before Guinea-Bissau Republic. [Excerpt] [Algeiers APS in English 1327 GMT 6 Aug 84 LD]

LIBYA

DPRK Chief of Staff Arrives for Talks

LD061337 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] O Kuk-yol, chief of the General Staff of the DPRK People's Army, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to SPLAJ [Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah] within the framework of strengthening the existing relations of cooperation between the two countries. Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, inspector general of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, welcomed General O Kuk-yol at Tripoli International Airport. A number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces and the ambassador and members of the DPRK Embassy also took part in welcoming Gen O Kuk-yol.

Iran's Minister of Revolutionary Guards Arrives

LD061631 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1535 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Aug (JANA) — Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon with an accompanying delegation on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah within the framework of consolidating the relations of cooperation between the two fraternal countries. In a statement to JANA, Mohsen Rafiqdust expressed the solidarity of the Iranian people with the fraternal Libyan Arab people in confronting the U.S. imperialist provocations. In his statement he asserted the depth of the ties and relations between the two fraternal countries and the Iranian people to consolidate and promote the relations of cooperation with the Libyan Arab people in all areas.

Jallud Receives Tunisian Foreign Minister

LD061922 Tripoli JANA in English 1748 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 9, August 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud met yesterday with the Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi who handed him a letter from the Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba to the leader of the revolution.

Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks Out Against 'New Bourgeoisie'

LD051034 Tripoli JANA in English 0927 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Banghazi, Dhulqidah 8, August 5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution yesterday met with the secretaries and members of the People's Committees at Banghazi municipality. As part of his significant observations during the meeting, the leader of the revolution pointed to a phenomena hostile to the masses' society, that of the new bourgeoisie in the form of a group of people occupying marginal posts, enjoying salaries privileges and free goods without giving in exchange any significant productive work.

The leader then urged the need for the immediate removal of this negative phenomena by implementing well-studied programmes to turn this group towards production pointing out that such a phenomena is prevailing in a number of societies at this time especially in countries with a socialist system where there should not be consumption without production. The leader in particular stressed the need for turning the inhabitants of towns into producers in order to remove the new bourgeoisie class pointing out that the town is considered like any industrial or agricultural grouping, not a bureaucratic bourgeois gathering in which marginal posts abound.

The leader then moved on to discuss the new basic people's congresses which are being formed on a wide scale in all areas of the country, stressing their importance in reaffirming, entrenching and perpetuating the people's authority. He emphasised that people's committees and congresses are the backbone of the Jamahiriyah and that the revolutionary committees are the support of the people's authority.

The leader of the revolution also stressed the importance of and the need for meetings of people's committees in gatherings to discuss the resolutions which they implement. In this respect the leader urged the importance of the convention of a conference for people's committees to study resolutions that are implemented as well as difficulties and problems which become an obstacle in the face of the implementation of resolutions passed by people's congresses. He then stressed the importance of the people's committees for tribes which should be relied on as it is necessary to accept without discussion their recommendations since they experience the problems of all the masses surrounding them.

The leader of the revolution then pointed to the popularisation of areas explaining that in the light of the formation of the new basic people's congresses these are considered Jamahiriyahs on their own, with people's congresses and committees and revolutionary committees as well as possess the available material capabilities.

[sentence as received] He said every basic people's congress is in itself an existing Jamahiriyah on the land.

The leader then explained the meaning of the popularisation which he said leads to integrating all sectors in the society and removes the permament aspect of each sector, stressing that society should undertake work in all sectors, thus allowing society to perfom its duties in the military, agricultural and professional sectors. Furthermore, the leader stressed the importance of training officers everywhere to show masses the nature and method of work in all sites. These training operations, he said, should be highly intensified so that all professions are fully comprehended and better performed.

At-Turayki on Arab Differences, Other Issues

GF051600 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1040 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Aug (WAKH) — 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, has announced that the collective and bilateral Arab meetings have provided the opportunity to discuss some Arab differences.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspapers *AL-WATAN* and *AL-QABAS*, which was published today, Mr at-Turayki said that there are good indications that the level of the joint Arab work is improving, but added that the Arab relations have been virtually nonexistant because of the decline in the Arab situation.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, the Libyan official said that there have been no changes in the Libyan stance toward the war, pointing out that Libya has been against the war from its beginning.

He expressed his hope that the war will end, pointing out that the colonialist countries want to create a new pan-Arab conflict in the region which will divert the Arabs from their struggle against the Zionist entity.

Mr at-Turayki referred to the Palestinian issue and called on the Palestinian resistance to achieve unity.

On the situation in Lebanon, 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki warned of the seriousness of the U.S.-Israeli alliance with regard to Lebanon's independence and said that this small Arab country, which has been torn by a destructive civil war, is running out of chances.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Libyan Envoy

LD061438 Rabat MAP in English 1204 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Casablanca 6 Aug (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received here Sunday afternoon Mr Jadallah 'Aziz at-Talhi, secretary of the Libyan Liaison Popular Committee and emissary of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Mr at-Talhi had arrived in Casablanca Saturday with a message from Col al-Qadhdhafi to the Moroccan sovereign.

Communist AL-BAYANE Backs Libyan Sahara Stand

LD061501 Rabat MAP in English 1215 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat Aug 6 (MAP) *AL-BAYANE*, daily organ of the Party for Progress and Socialism (PPS-Communist), Sunday backed the analysis of Libyan President Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who declared before the Permanent Ministerial Committee of the Arab-African Cooperation, held in Tripoli, Libya, that the Sahara issue is an Arab problem, which should be settled in an Arab framework. "This stand of the Libyan leader, the daily went on, underlines the specific dimensions of an artificial problem, made up (to harm) Morocco and her right to territorial integrity and national sovereignty".

"It is indeed", the daily underscored, "among Maghrebans and Arabs that the question should be settled in a way that respects the national rights of Morocco and works for unitary perspectives with regard to the Arab nation, apart from the Balkanizing and secessionist threat".

After it recalled the Algerian manoeuvres at the African level, paralysing thus the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the daily wrote that "certainly, we agree with the Libyan president's insights, when pleading for the submitting of the affair to the Arab (jurisprudence). Our Arab brethrens know well enough the history of Morocco (...) including its Saharan dimension, so as not to be lured by the worn out mirages of the so-called SDAR (a self proclaimed Sahrawi republic).

"Morocco is fully disposed to submit to the Arabs her patriotic cause. Would Algeria dare do the same?". The daily ended.

SUDAN

Information Minister Assails Hostile Campaigns

JN031106 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Aug (SUNA) — The current malicious campaigns being launched by the Western media against the Sudan have been prompted by its adoption of Islamic legislations, Information and Culture Minister 'Ali Shammu told a press conference here yesterday. Shammu was leading a ministerial delegation currently here on a visit to the United Arab Emirates in the context of a Gulf tour.

He said these campaigns were at cracking the unity of the Sudanese people. He stressed that the Islamic legislations had passed through constitutional channels before being promulgated.

He said they were exclusively derived from the traditional Islamic sources of legislation. By so doing, the Sudan has put an end to all kinds of cultural hegemony by both the East and the West.

Speaking to the press conference, Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman accused Ethiopia of attempting to destabilize Sudan. He said it hosts and trains the dissidents.

AL-AYYAM Comments on Al-Qadhdhafi's 'Conspiracies'

LD070100 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Excerpts] *AL-AYYAM* wrote the following today under the headline "Faced With an Enemy Filled With Hatred and Fed on Madness, We Need More Awareness":

Last Saturday, 28 July, the state security organization uncovered a terrorist network led by Muhammad Kafi Jibril. He and the members of his gang admitted that the operation was planned and financed by the Libyan colonel. The plot aimed at assassinations and the blowing up of institutions.

Such attempts are acts of barbaric vengeance. The colonel has now resorted to planting gangs in the middle of town quarters inhabited by the peaceful, Muslim, and self-assured Sudanese nation and addressing his gangs through cipher to cause murder and explosions at any cost and by any means, heedless of the outcome, even if the victims should be innocent people, even children. This is similar to the behavior of his organizations inside Libya, which permit physical liquidation as a solution and for getting rid of those whose opinions differ [words indistinct].

As we address our people with facts on the conspiracy, we feel that the colonel's conspiracies are changing: New methods are being used. As has always been the case he ignores all normal customs. He wishes to attain his ends through means that actually belong to the Sudanese people. [Words indistinct] assassinations at random.

As the state security organization has discovered more and more conspiracies, it needs the citizens' eyes — and so does the homeland. It needs to be ever vigilant and persistent not only in uncovering conspiracies, but also to prevent the citizens from losing their lives should they continue to rely on casual good-naturedness and good intentions — characteristics deeply etched into our people's temperament.

The people's eyes must be fully open and the eyes of our organizations and institutions must be careful, because we are faced with an enemy who would not desist from perpetrating anything, either inside public vehicles or by blowing up bridges — like one who seeks vengeance as a result of a failure complex.

He is (?aware) that his own people are looking forward to removing him at any moment, as is shown by the Aziziyah operation. That is the colonel: He is capable of doing anything.

Numayri Addresses Worshippers on Regional Tour

JN031802 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 3 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has said that his tour of the Sudanese regions has increased his conviction that he is assuming a great trust and an enormous responsibility and that God will help him in fulfilling this trust and responsibility because of his sincere intentions, clear conscience, and faith in God Almighty. Addressing worshippers after Friday prayers at the Armed Forces Mosque here today, the president added: We are on the threshhold of a great Jihad to build a modern, civilized state, in which we will work for our worldly affairs as well as for the life hereafter by fearing God.

President Numayri enumerated the blessings which God bestowed on us, such as good, vast lands, rivers, animal resources, vegetation, and agricultural resources and said that we should pray to God to end our distress and bring rain.

The president affirmed that these blessings can only be usefully exploited by depending on ourselves and on all of the people's resources. He said that self-dependence will remain only a slogan if it is not backed by serious work controlled by a free conscience and by souls that fear God and hell.

The president explained that his tour of the Central, Northern, Eastern, Kordofan, and Darfur Regions has confirmed that regional government is a great necessity for bringing services to the people and progress to all sectors of the nation as well as pooling resources for reconstruction.

The president also said that his meetings during this tour have also confirmed that citizens everywhere are ready to pay alms and contribute toward entrenching the foundations of the Muslim state.

Briefs

Ambassador in Uganda Dies — Khartoum, Kampala, 6 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has mourned the death of Sudan's ambassador to Uganda, 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Uthman, who died this morning from a heart attack. [Excerpt][Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1250 GMT 6 Aug 84 JN]

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Statement on Clashes With Moroccan Forces

LD051317 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The Ministry of Information of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic has published a statement giving the results of the operations carried out by the Saharan revolutionaries in the liberated territory during the period from 28 to 31 July. The statement pointed out that Moroccan forces lost 30 soldiers either dead and wounded during battles in the region of Mzala, El Haouz and [words indistinct] in addition to large quantities of weapons and military equipment destroyed.

AFP: Polisario Says 15 Moroccans Killed in Raids

NC051402 Paris AFP in English 1357 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, Aug. 5 — Polisario guerrillas killed 15 Moroccan soldiers and wounded 15 others in raids over the past week in disputed Western Sahara, the Algerian-backed movement announced here today.

The attacks reportedly took place July 28 at Oued Ourg, near

Amgala, in the northeast of the former Spanish colony, July 29 at Graret Oulad Moulat and last Tuesday at Ratmia and Rous Skekima.

In a statement issued by the Polisario Information Department, the guerrillas, who have been fighting Morocco for control of Western Sahara since Spain pulled out of the territory in 1975, also said they had destroyed a munitions dump and a fuel depot during the raids.

Since May, when Rabat announced the completion of a security wall in the north of Western Sahara which it said would prevent Polisario troops from entering the territory, the guerrillas have regularly claimed attacks on Moroccan posts.

CAMEROON

Biya Address Military School Graduates

AB061230 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The head of state and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, His Excellency Paul Biya, has defined the Army as an indispensable institution for the safeguard of national unity and the protection of citizens' rights. The president was speaking at a brief ceremony yesterday during which he awarded epaulettes to the 16th batch of young officers who graduated from the Yaounde Military Academy.

He implored the national defense forces to remain ever conscious of their traditional role as first rank servants of peace, liberty, and the security of the nation. The president promised severe punishment for whosoever betrayed his country by attempting to divide the Army through sedition and corrupt [words indistinct]. He urged the young graduating officers to emulate the example of their superiors whose concern had been to ensure the unity of this country.

Speaking on the significance of the ceremony, President Paul Biya declared that it marked the (?sense) of honor between the entire nation and the members of the Armed Forces for the protection of the nation's independence. Finally, he hailed the patriotic example of the forces portrayed by hard work, tolerance, and cooperation in the furtherance of the fatherland.

Of the 30 young graduates in the Yaounde Military Academy, there are 3 from the Republic of Niger; 2 from the Bourkina-Fasso, formerly Upper Volta; and 25 from Cameroon.

Appointments to National Security Service

AB061538 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Yaounde, Aug 6 (AFP) — Cameroonian President Paul Biya has named several new men to leadership posts in the country's security services in an apparent effort to boost his defenses following the abortive coup attempt against the Yaounde government in April, observers here said.

In the reshuffle announced over the weekend, Commissioner Pierre Minlo Medjo, formerly a provincial chief in the National Security Service, was named to head the Presidential Guard. The post was held by Colonel Rene Claude Meka until the April 6 putsch. Commissioner Samuel Missomba was assigned the top post in the National Documentation Center, replacing Jean Fochive, while Denis Ekani was named as a new delegate-general to the National Security Service.

On 12 April Mr Biya (?made changes in the presidential security) naming Major Blaise Mpeke as deputy presidential chief of staff, and Captain Ivo Desancio Yenwo as deputy director of presidential security.

Government Responds to Amnesty International Charges

AB051055 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Cameroon has officially replied to an Amnesty International correspondence last week, which asked President Biya to give a public account of the evolution of the legal proceedings being taken against the promoters of the April 6th attempted coup d'etat.

The reply released by the minister of information and culture deplored the contemptuous attitude of Amnesty International, which as a private organization had the impunity to address the head of a sovereign state by telex, an attitude which, the reply said, Amnesty International would only have the courage to adopt toward Third World countries.

Further on Reply

AB041110 Paris AFP in English 1038 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Yaounde, Aug 4 (AFP) — The Cameroon Government today replied to allegations by Amnesty International that 120 people had been secretly executed in connection with the attempted coup on April 6, saying that the rights group had displayed "intolerable ignorance" about the coup.

A statement from the Information and Culture Ministry here last night said "justice and the defence of human values make demands that nobody has a right to ignore, including Amnesty International." This was the first official reaction to the accusations made by the humanitarian organisation in a report published Wednesday. The reply did not contain an explicit denial of Amnesty's charges, although the group's claims of torture were indirectly denied. Amnesty also said dozens of people allegedly involved in the coup had been imprisoned following brief apperances before military courts.

The ministry statement said Amnesty's call to Cameroonian President Paul Biya to make the trial proceedings public showed a "discourteous and scornful attitude" and revealed "inexcusable ignorance about the causes and consequences of the sad events of April 6." According to the principle of the separation of powers, the president, as head of the executive, did not have to give an account of court proceedings, which came under the judiciary, the statement said. Moreover, it pointed out, Cameroonian laws on state security had been enforced before President Biya came to power in November 1982 without any criticism from Amnesty.

CHAD

UNIR Central Committee Ends Deliberations

AB062140 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The deliberations of the ordinary session of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR] Central Committee, which resumed yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, have ended.

This afternoon, the 80 members of the UNIR Central Committee attended a cocktail party given by the head of state and UNIR Chairman Hissein Habre in the garden of the presidency. Also present at the reception were members of the government and other Chadian officials including the members of the National Consultative Council. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together all the staff of the political life in the country in order to make them better known, especially since the members of the UNIR Central Committee are going away soon on (?missions) to the provinces. The next session of the Central Committee will take place in 4 months in Ndjamena.

CONGO

PCT Central Committee To Hold Extra Session

AB061729 Dakar PANA in French 1352 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 4 Aug (ACI/PANA) — The recently elected Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Aprty [PCT] will meet for an extraordinary session on 6 August, according to a presidential ordinance published on Friday in Brazzaville. During the meeting, the Central Committee is expected to define the duties of the 13 members of the new Political Bureau and name members of the next government. The new PCT Central Committee, set up by the third ordinary congress of the party held from 27 through 31 July, has (?75) members as against 60 it previously had. Twenty-four new members were elected while nine were excluded from the committee.

Session Opens

AB062005 Paris AFP in French 1727 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 6 Aug (AFP) — The extraordinary session of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party (PCT, in power), which was elected during the third ordinary congress of the party last July, opened in Brazzaville on Monday under the chairmanship of Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, it has been announced in Brazzaville. This first session will center on the allocation of duties for the 13 members of the Political Bureau and the functioning of the working commissions of the Central Committee and the standing regulations of the ruling organ of the party.

AZAP on Sassou-Nguesso Biographical Background

AB032130 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1305 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 3 Aug (PANA/AZAP) — Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who was on Monday reelected chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, [PCT] is an officer of the airborne infantry and a graduate of the Saint-Maixent school in France.

Born in 1943 at Edou, a village situated in [words indistinct] in the Guvette region, he entered the Army in 1961, after he came out first in the entrance examination to the Joint Services Regiment School for Reserve Officers at Cherchell in Algeria. He graduated as a second lieutenant and continued his military training a year later at the Infantry Training School in Saint-Maixent, France. After completing his training, Mr Sassou-Nguesso was appointed commander of the autonomous military zone of Brazzaville (the capital), then minister of national defense.

As a member of the Scholars' Association of Congo, he began his true political career with his active participation in the popular uprising which led to the revolution of 14 and 15 August 1963 which overthrew President Father Fulbert Youlou. He became a member of the PCT Central Committee in December 1969 upon the creation of the party. He successively became member of the Political Bureau in charge of coordination with mass organizations, secretary of the Central Committee in charge of the standing committee to the army in 1974, and minister of national defense from December 1975 to March 1977.

While occupying this latter post, he also assumed the duties of first vice chairman of the party's military committee which was led by General Yhombi-Opango and set up after the assassination of President Marien Ngouabi. Two years later, on 5 February 1979, he led the movement that ousted General Yhombi-Opango, who was accused of ideological deviation. The extraordinary congress of the party of 26 March 1979 elected him president.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

AFP on Financial Difficulties Facing Country

AB021400 Paris AFP in French 1203 GMT 2 Aug 84

[By AFP special correspondent Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Excerpt] Malabo, 2 Aug (AFP) — By joining the Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC) last December, Equatorial Guinea hoped to finally place itself on the road to development and thus gradually free itself from the complete economic stagnation to which it had been plunged since independence in 1968. However, there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. This membership, which particularly implies integration into the franc monetary zone, is not without difficulties. Joining Cameroon [words indistinct] out of reach of this former Spanish colony. Thus, right from the beginning of 1984, foreign missions — especially French missions — have been succeeding one another in Malabo, which had never experienced such activity. This is because everything remains to be done or done over again in this small country which the former dictator Macias Nguema was bent on destroying during his long 11-year reign. He destroyed everything, from public finances to the national accounts and the treasury. "A 5-year period has been planned during which the country must set up an administration worthy of the name, harmonize its customs tariffs with those of the other countries of the region, and resume production of exportable crops like cocoa, coffee, and timber," a French expert has stressed. [passage indistinct]

Another difficulty is that with the entry into the franc monetary zone, it will be necessary to readjust Equatorial Guinea's currency, the ekwele, which is now nonconvertible and very much overvalued. "At the moment, absolutely nothing is known about the total amount of money in circulation, remarked another French expert. It is difficult to clarify the situation because there is no separation between the public treasury and the central bank. The only thing we know is that the currency-producing machine must have become worn out through excessive use." "But it is necessary to clarify the situation because new currency notes have already been printed," he said. It is difficult to do away with bad habits but they must be done away with because after the integration [into the franc monetary zone], Equatorial Guinea will have to conform with the common law and be subject itself to the rules of the Bank of the Central African States (BEAC).

GABON

Briefs

New Ambassador to Senegal — Senegalese President Abdou Diouf has approved the appointment of Jeanne (Jaomedika) as Gabon's ambassador to Senegal. [Summary] [Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 3 Aug 84 AB]

ZAIRE

AFP Reopens Office in Kinshasa; Closed in 1979

AB061815 Paris AFP in French 1104 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 4 Aug (AFP) — Henri Pigeat, general manager of AGENCE FRANCE PRESS [AFP], reopened the Kinshasa AFP bureau in the Zairean capital last Thursday. The bureau was closed in 1979. Mr Pigeat was received by President Mobutu Sese Seko on the occasion. Like his Zairean collegues, Mr Pigeat expressed satisfaction over the strengthening of the relations betwen AFP and the ZAIREAN PRESS AGENCY, AZAP.

Briefs

New Ambassador From Canada — Nicholas Hare has been appointed the Canadian ambassador to Zaire, Rwanda, and Burundi according to a cable from Ottawa. The new 45-year -old Canadian ambassador was the former director general of the UN program at the Canadian International Development Agency in Ottawa. [Summary] [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1335 GMT 3 Aug 84 AB]

BOURKINA-FASSO

President Sakara Explains Meaning of 'Bourkina-Fasso'

AB061840 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 6 Aug 84

["Excerpt" of the press conference given by Bourkinan head of state Captain Thomas Sankara on 5 August in Ouagadougou — reply to a question on the constitution by an unidentified Gabonese newsman]

[Text] Certain needs also translate the ideologies which have been impressed upon a country. I do not think that to build up a nation it is necessary to fill up certain frameworks, that is after choosing a flag, one must have this and that, and a constitution to be considered a full-fledged, normal state. We have no complex for not having a constitution in comparison with states with constitutions. We do not feel we are in a lawless state compared to other states which have a well-written constitution. We want our constitution to be the people's conscience shared by the majority of the masses. Whether it is written or not, we want it to be applied every day by each of us in what we do. I simply mean that a constitution is not among our preoccupations.

After a year of revolutionary life in this country — the Bourkina [as heard] — we know who respects and who violates the law. We live our law every day. It is not written, indeed; but it is well felt by the people. Perhaps for those who feel the need to have such a fundamental law, such basic texts, there is a disquieting vacuum. However, if you spend a little more time among us, you will understand that there is nothing to be worried about.

I want to take this opportunity to make a clarification. You realized a short moment ago that we have omitted "people's," "democratic," and "republic" from Bourkina-Fasso. This is because that is a kind of tautology which can create confusion. For us, the word "state" is designated by the word "bourkina," which has a geographical meaning, while the judicial organization is designated by the word "fasso," which takes into account the republican value, an institution. We acknowledge that a republic is a more elaborate, and advanced form of society than other forms of social organizations. However, since the "republic" could not fully express what we had in mind, we had to look for another word. Unfortunately, the dictionary could not help. So we have had to return to our language to say what we mean; we have thus picked the word "fasso." This is why we are Bourkina-Fasso without any qualifying words such as democratic, popular, or republic because all these words are already expressed by the word "fasso." One only had to think a bit hard.

Correction to Name of Upper Volta Changed

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Name of Upper Volta Changed to Bourkina Fasso,"published in the 6 August Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT* on page T 2.

First paragraph, line six: ...Decree No 83/021/CNR/PRES of 24 August 1983 relating to... (changing "1984" to "1983")

Sixth paragraph, line four: ...a golden star with five points.... (changing "branches" to "points")

Ghana's Rawlings Departs Following Festivities

AB060900 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Flight Lieutenant John Jerry Rawlings, leader of the Ghanaian revolution, yesterday returned to Accra after taking part in the celebrations marking the first anniversary of our revolution along with his Bourkinan counterpart, Captain Thomas Sankara. Prior to his departure, Flight Lt Rawlings told the press that he is proud of what he saw during his stay in Bourkina-Fasso. According to him, the Bourkinan have started relying on their own resources, which not only marks the beginning of the revolution, but also gives more impetus to the revolutionary process. Before his departure, he planted a tree in the green grass at the airport.

GHANA

Botchway Reports on Recent Visit to Latin America

To Ask for Cuban Assistance

AB031515 Paris AFP in French 1129 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Accra, 3 Aug (AFP) — The Ghanaian Government is to ask Cuba for assistance in the fields of agriculture, fishing, and sugar production, the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, stated in Accra on Thursday during a press conference on the visit by the head of state, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, and many Ghanaian officials to Cuba, Nicaragua, Guyana, and Surinam.

Cuban experts were recently in Ghana to study ways and means of rehabilitating Ghana's sugar factories which have stopped production.

Dr Botchwey added that during its visit to Surinam, the Ghanaian delegation and the Surinam Government examined the possibility of cooperating in the area of the cultivation of rice, which is well developed in Surinam, and bauxite mining. According to the secretary, the visit to Nicaragua was the most significant because the Ghanaian officials found that the revolution in the two countries had many things in common.

Pledges Economic Cooperation

FL031810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1736 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Accra, Aug 3, CANA-REUTER — Ghana has pledged to cooperate economically with Cuba, Suriname, and Guyana following the recent visit of Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings to the Caribbean and Central America, the GHANA NEWS AGENCY (GNA) said today.

GNA quoted Ghanaian Finance Secretary (minister) Kwesi Botchwey as saying Ghana could cooperate with Cuba in fishing and sugar, and that Suriname could help his country grow rice.

Botchwey added that Ghana would share experiences with Guyana in the bauxite industry, and that Ghana and the four countries the delebation visited, which also included Nicaragua, recognised the need for Third World nations to cooperate among themselves instead of relying on the West.

Asamoah Comments on Afro-Arab Cooperation

AB061035 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, has arrived back in Accra after attending the seventh session of the Commission for Afro-Arab Solidarity in Tripoli, Libya. Speaking to newsmen, he emphasized that Afro-Arab cooperation is very important. This is because both sides share common aspirations. According to Dr Asamoah, while the Arabs share Africa's concern over the question of apartheid, Africa too shares their concern over Israeli activities against them. He observed that even though the Arab League has made substantial contributions towards African development, there is still considerable room for improvement. The secretary announced that the commission called on Arab states to increase its lending to African countries to enable them to sustain ongoing projects. It also discussed the need to expand trade between the two sides. Dr Asamoah hoped the commission with Ghana and Libya as cochairmen would ensure that Africa received most of the resources it needs for its development and which the Arab League has in abundance. It will also encourage greater Arab investment in Africa instead of Europe. The commission made up of member states of the OAU and the Arab League decided to hold the ministerial conference in April next year to prepare again for another conference of the OAU and the Arab states. The Afro-Arab Commission stands for economic, technical, cultural, and political cooperation between African and Arab countries.

Student Group Urges Support For Polisario

AB031140 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The Ghana United Nations Students and Youth Organization (GUNSA) has urged those African countries dragging their feet on the Western Sahara issue to support the Polisario Front in the supreme interest of African unity. This was contained in a communique issued at the just-ended 21st annual GUNSA convention at the University of Ghana, Legon. The communique said GUNSA is disturbed by the continued intransigence of Morocco to sit with the Polisario around the conference table to resolve the issue in contravention of the decision of the last OAU summit. The delegates deplored Morocco's act of annexation, describing it as a move to retard Africa's drive toward genuine total liberation.

The communique urged the OAU not to concern itself with the threats by Morocco to withdraw from the organization over the Western Sahara issue, adding: Morocco's attitude is a negation of the principles of African unity.

The communique noted with great concern the predicaments of liberation movements in southern Africa brought about by the recent Nkomati agreement and the nonagression pact signed between South Africa and some Frontline States. It called on liberation movements in the region to devise new strategies to continue with the struggle till victory is won.

Newspaper Deplores Exodus of Workers to Tanskei

AB031240 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 3 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Writing under the headline: "A Twist To Exodus," the *GHANAIAN TIMES* alleges that an appreciable number of Ghanaians have found their way to the Transkei, one of the so-called African homelands in South Africa, to take up various jobs, and that more Ghanaians are going. It describes this extension of the exodus as distressing, adding that there seems to be no end to the amazing things some Ghanaians are prepared to do in pursuit of a good life. The *TIMES* says those Ghanaians who can find suitable jobs in the Transkei or in any of the homelands are certainly those who cannot be jobless in Ghana because the availability of unskilled labor is not the problem in black oppressed South Africa, and any unskilled jobless fellow in Ghana who goes to the bantustan for employment is going to do the kind of work he doesn't want to do in his own country or even worse.

According to the paper, most of the Ghanaian professionals and technicians who have joined the exodus, did so mainly because they don't want to stay and take part in the hard work and sacrifices necessary to create the conditions that would make life comfortable for all of us.

The *TIMES* says: For whatever reasons Ghanaians wish to join the exodus, they are free to do so, but to travel to Transkei is quite intolerable. The paper therefore urges the government to ban travel by people holding Ghanaian passports and other Ghanaian citizenship documents from going there. [sentence as heard]

March, Rallies Mark Bourkina-Fasso Anniversary

AB032155 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] As part of the celebrations marking the Upper Volta [Bourkina-Fasso] anniversary celebration, there will be a solidarity route march through the principal streets of Accra tomorrow by the Accra district militia beginning at 0700 in the morning. The members will be accompanied by 44 students and officials of the cultural displays. These will be followed by solidarity rallies in the afternoon.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Newspaper Lists New Secretaries of State

AB061800 Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 18 Jul 84 p 1, 8

[Excerpts] Names of members of the new government in Guinea-Bissau, made up of 15 ministers and 12 secretaries of states, were announced in Bissau last night.

Minister-Governor of the National Bank:
Pedro Godinho Gomes
Secretary of State for Combatants for the Freedom of the Fatherland:
Joaquim Furtado
Secretary of State for the Chairmanship of the Council of State:
Henriqueta Godinho Gomes
Secretary of State for Justice:
Rui das Merces Barreto
Secretary of State for Fisheries:
Luis Oliveira Sanca
Secretary of State for Tourism:
Alberto Lima Gomes
Secretary of State for Natural Resources:
Pio Correia
Secretary of State for International Cooperation:
Bernardino Cardoso
Secretary of State for Transport:
Mario Ribeiro
Secretary of State for Education:
Manuel Rambout Barcelos
Secretary of State for Culture and Sports:
Joao da Silva
Secretary of State for Information:
Agnelo Regalla

LIBERIA

Two Journalists Detained Without Charges

AB061020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Two Liberian journalists are being detained at the post stockade at the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia. According to friday's edition of the *FOOTPRINTS* newspaper, no charges have yet been brought against the men. The two, Mr Momolu Sackor Sirleaf, the president of the Footprints Enterprises, and the sports editor of the *FOOTPRINTS*, were arrested last Wednesday, August 1. The detention of the two journalists comes only a day following the publication of two recent *FOOT PRINTS* newspapers accusing the Public Works Ministry of corruption and malpractices. The paper's July 30 and 1 August editions captioned headline stories of "Corruption at Public Works" and "Malpractices at Public Works" respectively.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Public Works has categorically denied the allegations. A release from the Ministry of Public Works has described the articles as a wicked, vicious, and malicious attempt on the part of the former chief of security at the ministry, William Brown, and *FOOTPRINTS* newspaper to soil the image of the Public Works Ministry. The release also said the articles were designed to defame and assassinate the characters of some officials of the ministry and distract the attention of the Ministry of Public Works from carrying out its duties.

The ministry further explained that all the incidents cited by Mr Brown were legitimate transactions between the Ministry of Public Works and business houses in accordance with the established government procedures, regulations, and policies.

It can be recalled that late in June, Mr Richard Darpoh was reportedly arrested and identified as the person transmitting news clandestinely against the interests of the Liberian Government. A release obtained from the joint security in Monrovia said Mr Darpoh is reported to have admitted being the author of some of the articles and said he was assisting the joint security in their investigation.

NIGERIA

DPRK Vice President Makes Official Visit

Arrives 2 August

AB031110 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Nigeria and the DPRK are to hold bilateral talks at Dodan Barracks in Lagos today. The Nigerian delegation will include the ministers of external affairs, national planning, agriculture, and water resources. The visiting vice president of the DPRK, Mr Pak Song-chol, will lead his team to the talks. Later today, Mr Pak Song-chol will be received in audience by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. Tomorrow the Korean vice president will undertake a 1-day visit to Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

He is expected to leave Lagos for Zimbabwe Sunday in continuation of his tour of Africa. The Korean vice president arrived yesterday on a 4-day offical visit to Nigeria.

Idiagbon Speaks at Dinner

AB031300 Lagos International Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Nigeria has called on the DPRK to join in the efforts aimed at mobilizing world opinion against the spread of nuclear power. The call was contained in a speech delivered yesterday in Lagos by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, at a dinner in honor of the visiting Korean vice president, Pak Song-chol. Brig Idiagbon said the spread of nuclear power could be accepted by the developing countries only for the purposes of raising the productive capacity and comfort of nations possessing them.

He commended North Korea for its universal quest for justice and freedom and called for the intensification of efforts toward the reunification of the two Koreas.

Responding, the Korean leader commended the Nigerian Government for its efforts to revamp the nation's economy and for implementing a dynamic foreign policy.

Meanwhile, bilateral talks between Nigeria and North Korea began in Lagos today. The visiting Korean vice president is leading his team at the talks, while Nigeria is being represented by top government functionaries. Later today, Mr Pak Song-chol will be received in audience by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari.

Further on Idiagbon Remarks

AB031545 Lagos NAN in English 1540 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 3 (NAN) — The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Idiagbon, said yesterday in Lagos that Nigeria was "keen on nurturing to full bloom" the existing ties between it and the People's Republic of Korea.

Speaking at a dinner held in honor of the North Korea vice president, Pak Song-chol, at the state house, Marina, Brig Idiagbon said that that was why both countries had continued to exchange visits at top levels. He said that the establishment of diplomatic relations between both countries eight years ago gave "concrete expression" to a common desire for friendly cooperation. He praised North Korea's technical assistance to Nigeria in irrigation and fishing and expressed the hope that Korean participation in the economic development of Nigeria would continue to the benefit of both countries. He called on both countries not to relent efforts in condemning the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Brig Idiagbon said that total elimination of apartheid and eradication of colonialism remained for Nigeria unshakeable articles of faith and solicited North Korea's support in that direction. The chief of staff said that the present administration was determined to raise the moral consciousness of Nigerians and the efficiency of all institutions, and called for the cooperation of all friendly countries, particularly North Korea.

Mr Pak, who praised Nigeria's dynamic foreign policy and its role in world affairs, said that the Korean people would continue to support Nigeria at international forum. He commended the Federal Government's policy of building a self-reliant national economy based on domestic raw materials. He said that the common aspect of the policies of the two countries would ensure greater cooperation between them. Mr Pak said that his country would continue to work for the unification of North and South Korea and expressed gratitude to the Nigerian Government for support for the cause of the Korean people to achieve the unification of their country.

Received by Buhari

AB041020 Lagos NAN in English 1003 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 3 (NAN) — The vice president of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Mr Pak Song-chol, today called on the head of state, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, at Dodan Barracks.

Mr Pak told the head of state that his country was interested in cooperation with Nigeria especially in agriculture. Mr Pak said that there were many areas of possible cooperation between the two countries and called for the exploitation of these areas. He commended Nigeria's independent foreign policy and anti-imperialist stand.

In his reply, Maj-Gen Buhari said that he was impressed by the self-reliance of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea which, he said, was the basis for true independence. The head of state said that he was also happy at the efforts being made for the re-unification of North and South Korea and expressed the hope that they would succeed. Maj-Gen Buhari said that Nigeria had great faith in the nonaligned movement and would do its best to strengthen it.

Discuss Agriculture, Technology

AB041138 Lagos NAN in English 0941 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 3 (NAN) — Nigeria and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today in Lagos began talks which, according to the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, would centre on agricultural and technological development.

The chief of staff, who is leading the Nigerian delegation, also expressed the hope that the talks would further improve the relationship between the two countries. Brig Idiagbon said that Nigeria and Korea shared a lot in common, adding that the talks were expected to broaden areas of cooperation and mutual understanding between the two countries.

The visiting vice president, Mr Pak Song-chol, who is leading his country's delegation, gave the assurance that Korea would expand and promote the cooperation between the two countries, adding that he hoped Nigeria would do the same.

Members of the Nigerian delegation to the talks include the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari; the minister of agriculture, water resources and rural development, Dr Bukar Shaib; and the minister of national planning, Chief Michael Adigun. On the Korean side are Mr Pak Won-chol, ambassador to Nigeria; Mr Kim Chak-pong, deputy head of International Department, Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea; and the economic counsellor for Korea in Nigeria, Mr Sok Hi-hyon.

DPRK To Send Agricultural Experts

AB060755 Lagos NAN in English 1420 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Port Harcourt, Aug 5 (NAN) — The North Korean vice president, Mr Pak Song-chol, said yesterday that his country would send technical experts to Nigeria to help in its various agricultural projects. Speaking during a visit to the Peremabiri rice project in Rivers, Mr Pak said that his country would offer necessary assistance to reactivate the project. He observed that the state was endowed with agricultural resources and that with proper farm management it could be a big food production centre for the whole country. He expressed interest in a further development of the relationship between Rivers and North Korea and pledged his country's willingness to help the state in food production.

The state governor [words indistinct] who had earlier received the vice president on arrival in Port Harcourt, said that the present administration had plans to utilise every available land in the area for food production. He called for technical assistance from North Korea and other friendly countries to assist the state government in realising its dream of self-sufficiency in food production. Mr Oyakhilome expressed the hope that the technical co-operation agreement between Nigeria and North Korea would enhance the relationship between them.

The minister of agriculture, Dr Bukar Shaib, also said that the Federal Government was determined to further strengthen the present technical agreement between Nigeria and North Korea.

Meanwhile, the Peremabiri community has expressed dissatisfaction with the past governments in the state for failing to reactivate the rice project. In a petition to the state military governor, the community accused the management of the farm of fraudulently giving workers sack letters while at the same time retaining their names on the pay-roll. It also complained that the farm's training programmes were often dominated by non-indigenes.

Mr Pak also visited the Kpong fruit and vegetable farm being managed by Koreans. Later, at a state luncheon, Mr Oyakhilome presented Mr Pak with a traditional costume of the Rivers people while the Korean vice president gave the governor some paintings.

Mr Pak left Lagos for Zimbabwe early today in continuation of his tour of some African countries. He was seen off at the Murtala Muhammed Airport by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, all the service chiefs, the inspector-general of police, the minister of external affairs and other top government officials.

Statement Released

AB062130 Dakar PANA in English 1611 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, 6 Aug. (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea agreed at the weekend to explore all forms of cooperation between them, particularly on irrigation and the manufacturing of machine-tools and spare parts.

A statement released today in Lagos on the bilateral talks held between the two countries said that Nigeria and Korea also agreed to explore ways of improving the volume of trade between them. The talks were held in Lagos during the four-day visit to the country by the vice president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mr Pak Song-chol.

During his stay in Nigeria, Mr Pak held separate meetings with the country's leaders, Major General Muhammadu Buhari and the country's number two man, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, at which the two countries reaffirmed their desire to cooperate, promote world peace and discourage the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Mr Pak left Lagos yesterday for Harare, the Zimbabwean capital.

Lagos: UK Determined 'To Destabilize' Country

AB061735 Lagos International Service in English
1630 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] By rejecting Nigeria's proposal for rescheduling the payment of her trade debts, Britain has proved beyond doubt that it will not stop at anything in its determination to destabilize Nigeria. Nigeria had asked for 6 years, including a 2 and 1/2-year grace period within which to repay the trade debts. She has reached agreements on similar terms with a group of uninsured British and Japanese creditors. But the British Export Credit Guarantee Department, which insures British exporters, is insisting that the proposal will be considered by it only after Nigeria has secured a loan from the IMF. This precondition by Britain is calculated to strangulate Nigeria's economy and thereby unleash social upheavals in the country. Britain was not only aware of the stringent terms under which the IMF says it is willing to grant Nigeria the loan she asked for, but she also played an active role in (?setting) these conditions.

Negotiations for the loan, which have been dragging on for more than 1 year, are deadlocked over some other conditions which the Nigerian Government considers inimical to the country's well-being. For instance, the IMF wants Nigeria to devalue her currency by a very high percentage. But the government has repeatedly said that devaluation of the naira is out of the question. Another unacceptable condition which the IMF has given Nigeria is the removal of government subsidies on fuel and allied products. There is therefore strong evidence of mischief and reaction by Britain to pair discussions on rescheduling the payment of the trade debts to a loan agreement between Nigeria and the IMF. This becomes clearer against the background of the recent diplomatic row between Nigeria and Britain. The British Government, under Mrs Thatcher, has been evidently hostile to Niegria. The root of this hostility is traceable to the late 70's when, too pressured by Nigeria, the British Government was forced to accept its responsibility and work positively for Zimbabwe's independence. Ever since the Thatcher administration has sought to ruin the Nigerian economy at the slightest opportunity. It worked against Nigeria's interests in the world oil market, encouraged the likes of fugitive Umaru Dikko to loot the country's treasury, and now the IMF seems to it an appropriate tool to pick out its vengeance on Nigeria.

Gambari To Depart for Regional Meeting in Togo

AB050950 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, and the Internal Affairs Minister, Brigadier Mohammed Magoro, will leave Lagos today for Lome, Togo, to attend a meeting of four West African countries. The other three countries are the Republic of Benin, Ghana, and the host country, Togo.

The meeting will discuss some common problems facing the four countries, including subversive activites of dissidents, drug and currency trafficking, security matters, border closure, and activities of alien criminals.

About 230 Detained for Oil Hoarding, Smuggling

AB061100 Paris AFP in English 1256 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 5 (AFP) — Nigerian police are holding about 230 people, including tanker drivers, suspected of illegal oil hoarding and smuggling of petroleum products for sale in neighbouring countries, the government-owned *NEW NIGERIAN* newspaper reported today quoting sources from police headquarters here. The paper said that several hundred people in all had been arrested in connection with illicit oil dealings, but others had been released. Those being held would soon face prosecution, it said.

The daily blamed a recent acute shortage of fuel in Nigeria on tanker drivers who diverted fuel from official to illegal depots within and outside the country's borders. Fuel is relatively inexpensive in Nigeria and can be sold at a large profit in neighbouring states.

Nigeria depends on petroleum for about 90 percent of its foreign exchange earnings, and the Lagos military administration has expressed concern about huge losses through malpractices in the vital oil industry. This has led to a drastic reduction to five in the number of oil companies licensed to undertake bunkering in the country. The number of bunkering vessels has equally been pegged at 12. Also in line with these restrictions, the Lagos military rulers' new Decree No 20 stipulates the death penalty for illegal importing or exporting of petroleum, as well as tampering with oil pipelines or fraud involving minerals or mineral ore. It is hoped here that the stiff penalty will curb malpractices and eliminate frauds and losses.

ANGOLA

President Signs Condolences for High Party Official

MB050616 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, this morning at the provincial commissariat in Luanda signed the book of condolences on the death of Joao Baptista Tanzo, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, who died in Luanda yesterday.

Defense Minister Tours Huambo, Speaks at Rally

MB060820 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha, Pedale, Angolan defense minister, said at a mass rally held in the Huambo Province that the task of defending our revolution is not just one for our Armed Forces but is also the responsibility of all defense and security bodies and the people in general.

Yesterday morning, Col Pedale exhorted the Huambo population, in the name of Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, to join the struggle against the UNITA puppet bands who massacre defenseless people and destroy our economy, thus preventing the advance of the national reconstruction and causing famine, nakedness, and misery.

To engage in this fight, it is imperative that we engage in this action in order to achieve our objectives. We must not continue watching our people being killed in cold blood. We have to organize ourselves to strongly combat the UNITA bandits, the Angolan defense minister said at the mass rally which he chaired in the Huambo city.

It will be recalled that in the province, Col Pedro Maria Tonha visited the municipalities of Caala, Bailundo, and CUIMA, where he assessed the determination of the population and the security and defense forces to repel any enemy attack in that region.

Further on Tonha Activities

MB061855 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Defense Minister Pedro Maria Tonha, Pedale, yesterday ended his visit to Huambo Province, where he visited the municipalities of Bailundo, Luimbale, Caala, and Guima. From Friday until Sunday Col Pedale familiarized himself with the implementation of the program on military and battle readiness of the people and the military situation in Huambo, and presided over a mass rally in Huambo City. During the rally, the defense minister briefed the people on the military training program for the working masses. He stressed the necessity of defending our revolution by the people, who are the main targets of enemy activities. He pointed out that our government armed the people so that, under the leaderhsip of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], they could defend their villages, homes, and factories. Accordingly, he said that the program now underway had already enabled the residents of Cuima municipality to bravely repulse a recent attempted attack by the puppet groups.

On slanderous campaigns mounted by UNITA gangsters, Minister Pedro Maria Tonha stressed enemy maneuvers to confuse public opinion about the presence of Cuban and Soviet internationalists in Angola, and he denounced imperialist actions to economically and politically destabilize our country. He recalled imperialist atrocities experienced by the residents of Huambo and the economic losses suffered by Angola. In conclusion, the defense minister assured the people that as long as there was a FAPLA combatant alive, the flag of socialism would fly over Angola.

AFP Reporter Examines Announcement on Cubans

AB031745 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Luanda has agreed on the gradual withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. This was disclosed this morning by the Angolan press agency, ANGOP, citing Venancio da Mura, Angolan deputy foreign minister. An AFP correspondent in Johannesburg, Denis Hiot, analyzes the Angolan decision.

[Hiot] It is not the first time Luanda has proclaimed its readiness to send the Cubans home. The last time was last March on the occasion of President dos Santos' visit to Havana. It goes without saying that the topic is of utmost importance. In fact, South Africa has always said that it would not grant independence to Namibia as long as the Cubans are stationed in neighboring Angola. But things have become complicated with Luanda making two demands: First, Fidel Castro's soldiers will leave if South Africa completely frees southern Angola and secondly if it stops helping the UNITA rebels. As for the first demand, that is, the military withdrawal of South Africa, Pretoria has already said that its troops would leave only if the freed zone will not be used as a passageway for SWAPO rebels. In other words, Pretoria demands assurances that SWAPO will not take advantage of the withdrawal to step up its raids against Namibia from Angola.

Luanda's second demand, that is, South Africa's support to the UNITA, is also a problem. Until now, Pretoria has always officially denied any aid to the anti-Marxist rebels. The Luanda government has a completely different opinion. According to them, UNITA will not continue to exist once deprived of South African support. In the meantime, as long as the UNITA is powerful enough in the field, Luanda will refuse to be weakened by sending the Cuban troops home. That makes a lot of conditions and observers do not see how an early solution could be found in the Namibian conflict.

Soviet Construction Company Builds Storage Tanks

MB060805 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Eleven National Angolan Fuel Company [Sonangol] storage tanks with capacity to store 11.6 million liters of different kinds of fuel have been built in Porto Amboim by a Soviet construction company.

According to the Sonangol deputy representative in Cuanza Sul, the construction of the complex named Great Storage of Fuels [Grande Stocagem de Combustiveis] has taken 2 years and has not yet begun operating due to slowness in constructing the wharf for oil tankers and two pipelines, one underwater and the other overland.

This project, which is better than the one in Malange, has a fire prevention station with two reservoirs with a capacity of 500,000 liters of water, a platform to fill fuel tankers and barrels, a section to supply ships, a complex for heating fuel, another complex for carbon dioxide foam, and a canteen for the workers.

The Sonangol deputy representative in Cuanza Sul Province has also told ANGOP that the storage of fuel is very important since once it is commissioned, it will serve the province with all types of fuel, thus relieving the shortages [words indistinct].

BOTSWANA

Parliamentary Elections Reportedly To Be Held 15 Sep

MB031410 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1355 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Gaborone, Aug 3, SAPA — Botswana's first general election in five years would be held next month, sources in the ruling Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] said this week after a meeting to discuss the hotly contested seat of Gaborone.

The incumbent in the Gaborone seat, Vice President Mr Peter Mmusi, told the meeting that he was "more than certain" the elections for the 34 parliamentary seats, two of which were added last year, would be held on September 15 or earlier.

The meeting, called by Mr Mmusi to discuss a strategy for his own constituency, came soon after the first political rally of Mr Mmusi's most favoured contender, former cabinet minister and independent candidate Mr Willie Seboni.

Although Mr Mmusi has been MP for Gaborone since the 1979 elections, Mr Seboni, a former executive director of the Abidjan-based Development Bank, won the seat in the three previous elections. After independence in 1965, and again in 1969 and 1974, Mr Seboni defeated Dr Kenneth Koma, leader of the opposition Botswana National Front.

Sources in the BDP say with popular Mr Seboni standing for Gaborone, the capital city might be the hardest seat for the ruling party to keep.

Besides Mr Seboni, standing as an independent in the elections, two new parties have entered the political arena since 1979.

The most contentious is the Botswana Progressive Union, led by ex-schoolteacher Mr Daniel Kwele. Mr Kwele, a former cabinet minister who was sacked after the death of Sir Seretse Khama, has been vehement in his campaign against Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwean Government. He is a supporter of ZANU leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, who comes from the same tribe, the Kalanga, and also promotes the recognition of South Africa's homeland policy.

Masire Concerned With Unemployment Problem

MB070721 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The president has said that his government is concerned at the lack of employment opportunities for Batswana, hence the appointment of the recent commission which studied ways and means through which they could become more actively involved in commercial and industrial activities. He was speaking yesterday at Mahalapye.

President Masire said that the commission had established that the lack of managerial skills was the main reason why Batswana were not playing a major role in industry and commerce. To remedy the situation, he continued, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry had sought to provide extension workers to help locals to manage their businesses more efficiently. President Masire pointed out that in order to encourage Botswana's produced goods from local resources his government had introduced the financial assistance policy with the aim of also creating employment. The government had already spent over 10 million pula on small-, medium-, and large-scale industry.

The president was accompanied to Mahalapye by the first lady, Mrs Masire; the assistant minister of local government and lands, Mr Lesedi Mothibamele, and the Central District council chairman, Mr (Tophue Gomoepe). The Serowe district commissioner, Mr (?Petje), and council officials were also present.

Vice President Says BDP Would Uphold Democracy

MB060618 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] candidate for Gaborone South, the vice president, Mr Peter Mmusi, has said that if his party is reelected it would continue to uphold the principle of democracy. Speaking at a political rally in Naledi yesterday, Mr Mmusi said that his party was not convinced that other parties would respect the democratic status the country has enjoyed since independence if elected to power.

He said his party was not going to promise the nation everything as the other parties are doing, but would create a situation conducive to future development and self-employment. He said his government encourages the creation of self-employment venture through schemes such as the Arable Land Development Program and the Financial Assistance Policy.

Mr Mmusi also told his audience that there was no country which is not hit by unemployment problems, adding that there are now 100,000 Batswana on wage employment as compared to 10,000 in 1965.

On the development of Naledi, he said that the area was no longer a squatter area, but has developed into a better residential area with water, health services, schools, roads, and drainage systems, and that the government has plans to improve the life of the people living there.

Commerce Minister Discusses Trade With Zimbabwe

MB031456 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1127 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of commerce and industry, Mr M.P. Nwako, has said that Botswana very much appreciates the current visit by Zimbabwe's trade mission. He said this is another step toward increased trade between the two countries.

Minister Nwako was speaking at a luncheon today for the visiting Zimbabwe trade mission, which is also taking part in the 16th Gaborone International Trade Fair. He said the trade mission was also another step along the road which led to a future, in which all trade barriers between different countries of Southern Africa Development and Coordination Conference are swept away.

But Mr Nwako said if full benefits of trade are to be enjoyed, it must be a two-way affair. Mr Nwako said the volume of trade between the two countries has increased in recent years and that Botswana and Zimbabwe delegations were meeting and exchanging correspondence on the draft for a mutually acceptable trade agreement to replace the present one that dates back to 1956. The minister said he hoped that when the Zimbabwean trade mission returns home it will have thought not only of what to sell to Botswana but also what to buy from Botswana.

He expressed appreciation of efforts made by Jaycees in the organizing of trade mission's visit to Botswana. He said this will lead to renewed interest in Botswana's national Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

COMOROS

Presidential Elections To Be Held 30 Sep

AB062300 Paris AFP in French 0842 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Moroni, 4 Aug (AFP) — According to a presidential decree issued yesterday, presidential elections will be held in the Republic of Comoros on 30 September.

The president of the Republic of Comoros is elected by direct universal suffrage. If a clear majority is not obtained during the first round, another round of voting will be held on 7 October 1984 in order to obtain the relative majority. The candidates must file their papers at the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court between Wednesday, 22 August, and 5 September 1984. All necessary documents, including certificates of guarantee signed by at least five deputies in each island should be deposited at the Supreme Court record office between 22 August and 5 September. A deposit of 500,000 Comoroan francs is to be paid by each candidate.

Despite the population's desire to see him run for the presidency, President Ahmed Abdallah has not yet disclosed his intentions. The election campaign will be launched on Sunday, 9 September, at midnight (local time) and will end on Friday, 28 September at the same time. The election results will be disclosed on 5 October or, in case of second polling, on 12 October.

MALAWI

Zambian Delegation Arrives for Joint Meeting

MB061818 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The second meeting of the Malawi-Zambia permanent joint commission for cooperation opens tomorrow in Blantyre. The commission, which was established in 1982 with the aim of promoting close relations and cooperation between the two countries, will, among other things, examine progress reports on the work undertaken in various areas of cooperation since the first meeting in Lusaka in January 1983.

Meanwhile, a 10-man Zambian delegation arrived in the country today to attend the meeting. The delegation, comprising four Cabinet ministers and six officials, is being led by Zambia's minister for national planning and development, Dr Meebelo. Speaking on arrival in Lilongwe, Dr Meebelo hailed the establishment of the commission, which he said provided a good link between the two neighboring states in exploring more areas of cooperation. He said Malawi and Zambia need to increase cultural, trade, and educational exchanges.

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister Jugnauth Pays Visit to South Korea

For South Korean reportage on the visit to South Korea by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth, including his meeting with South Korean Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong, see the South Korea section of the 2 August Asia and Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Swears In New Interior Minister

MB041213 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] President Samora Machel yesterday swore in Colonel Jose Oscar Monteiro as minister of interior during an official ceremony. The appointment of Jose Oscar Monteiro was made by a presidential decree of 16 June, which also appointed a number of officials of the state apparatus.

Machel's Visit to PRC, DPRK, SRV Hailed

MB040723 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] The recent visits by President Samora Machel to the PRC, the DPRK, and the SRV were a great success and achieved the desired objectives. This observation was made yesterday at a joint session of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Standing Commission, and the Council of Ministers' meeting held in Maputo to examine and approve the report on the visit of the Mozambican presidential delegation to those three Asian socialist countries.

A joint communique issued at the end of the session pointed out that during the presidential visit, the fields of bilateral cooperation between Mozambique and the three Asian countries were expanded on the basis of the principles of reciprocity and mutual benefits and advantages. The communique also stressed that the Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Standing Commission, and the Council of Ministers defined organizational measures and the people responsible for their accomplishment to ensure the implementation of the agreed programs.

Also during the joint session, the Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Standing Commission, and the Council of Ministers praised Field Marshal Samora Machel for the manner in which he represented the interests of the Mozambican people and the solidarity and internationalism with the peoples of the countries he visited, thus increasing admiration and respect for our country and raising its prestige.

Machel To Participate in Zimbabwe Party Congress

MB061113 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Marshal Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party, will take part in the second ZANU-PF congress, which is led by Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's prime minister. The congress is scheduled to begin on Wednesday.

Lesotho Information Minister Holds Talks With Cabaco

MB031341 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of information and broadcasting, Dr D.T. Sixishe, has held talks in Maputo with his Mozambican counterpart, Mr Jose Luis Cabaco.

The two information ministers discussed matters of mutual interest and explored possibilities of intensifying relations between their ministries especially in the light of the propaganda onslaught surrounding their respective countries. The two ministers also reviewed the political situation in southern Africa.

Mr Sixishe proceeds to Moscow today where he is due to sign an agreement between the Soviet news agency, TASS, and the Lesotho news agency.

NAMIBIA

Newspaper Blames Angola, SWAPO for Talks Failure

MB031019 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIEKEIN in Afrikaans 27 Jul 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Praiseworthy"]

[Text] It is praiseworthy that Administrator-General Dr Willie van Niekerk did not let the opportunity of holding talks with SWAPO on a cease-fire slip by.

It is clear that SWAPO was under pressure.

The Angolans cannot maintain the status quo in their country and SWAPO obviously does not have the capacity to continue its acts of terror.

As we know him, the administrator-general would have been wise and fair in his effort to create something constructive from this dilemma.

But now the effort has failed. Why?

It seems as if there are primarily two reasons for this.

The first reason for the failure does not lie with the administrator-general or with SWAPO, but with Angola.

The MPLA has never had anything in South-West Africa, never had any say here, or played any significant role in improving the living standards of the people. Yet this organization gives itself the right to meddle in South-West African affairs.

It is indeed the MPLA that is harboring SWAPO. It is the MPLA which gives the Russians, Cubans, and East Germans the opportunity to help with SWAPO's military training. Moreover, it is this MPLA that allows tons of weaponry to reach SWAPO through Angola. It is the MPLA that condemns domination in South Africa but does not allow UNITA any say inside Angola.

If Angola really wants to do something constructive it should have the courage to act directly against SWAPO. It should further have the magnanimity to accord Dr Jonas Savimbi the recognition he deserves. The MPLA should send the Cubans back to their country forthwith.

The second reason for the failure of the Cape Verde meeting lies with SWAPO. This organization has for years rejected the hand of friendship extended to it.

It alone wants to have such a say that even its few external sympathizers will be reduced to hangers-on without status.

SWANU President Ousted by Members' Conference

MB062010 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] There has been a palace coup within Namibia's oldest political party. According to reports, President of the South-West Africa National Union [SWANU] Moses Katjiuongua has been ousted from power because of the party's involvement in the Multi-Party Conference [MPC]. From Windhoek, Julia Singer reports:

[Singer] At the eighth [word indistinct] conference SWANU members have voted against party President Moses Katjiuongua and his executive as totally unfit to lead the party. The MPC was also rejected and was described as an institution without legitimacy, credibility, or any form of mandate from the people of Namibia. They have stated that the MPC pursues a policy of total collaboration with the South African Government, and have also voted unanimously to reinstate Nora Chase and Kuzeek Kangueehi as executive members. They were expelled last month in a purge by Katjiuongua of left-wing opposition. At a public meeting Katjiuongua described the conference as an illegal gathering of rebels. However, those who attended may claim they represent the bulk of SWANU's membership, including many top leaders.

SWAPO Official Skeptical of RSA Stand on Namibia

MB041207 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] A senior SWAPO official has expressed scepticism over racist South Africa's [words indistinct] to resolve the Namibian independence issue. The chief representative of the South-West Africa People's Organization in Zimbabwe, Comrade (Ndetapo Amagulu), says the Pretoria regime was responsible for the collapse of Namibian independence talks in Cape Verde recently because of its uncompromising attitude.

Comrade (Amagulu) says the talks failed because apartheid-ruled South Africa rejected SWAPO proposals to send a joint declaration to the United Nations secretary general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar. He explained that the Pretoria regime refused the offer and insisted on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola before serious negotiations on the territory's dispute could begin.

SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg on Emergence of Moderates in Africa

MB061844 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Station Commentary: "The Emergence of Africa's Moderates"]

[Text] An evidently speculative report was sent out from Abidjan at the weekend about preparations for a visit to the Ivory Coast by South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha. It immediately gave rise to speculation from different sources about a possible tour by Mr Botha to a variety of African countries. That the flurry in the media was apparently premature is of less note than what it signifies.

The general acceptance that such a tour by the South African prime minister is a realistic prospect is a measure of the remarkable political changes that have taken place in Africa. The immediate context is the breakthrough represented by the signing of the Nkomati Accord. Clearly the cooperative venture launched by South Africa with the formerly hostile Mozambique Government has accelerated the trend that has been discernable on a larger scale for 5 years. The change began with the election of Mr Ronald Reagan as President of the United States in 1980. The Reagan administration undertook to provide an umbrella of confidence for allies worldwide. In Africa it gave immediate effect to the undertaking by greatly increasing aid to countries under threat from Libya. Within 18 months the moderate group had gathered enough confidence to block the election of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi as chairman of the OAU. By the beginning of this year, the mood was one of readiness to face up to Africa's realities.

In March, with the signing of the Nkomati Accord, one of those realities had crystallized in a new political and economic concept of southern Africa. That a historic shift has taken place in the subcontinent was recognized by Western governments on Prime Minister Botha's subsequent tour of Europe.

The moderate governments in Africa are prepared to recognize it by engaging in open dialogue and this is almost as much of a breakthrough as the event itself. It is a milestone in their ridding themselves of the ideologically dictated delusions of the past.

CITY PRESS Applauds Mission Closing in New Zealand

MB030946 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 5 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "More Closed Doors Will Help"]

[Text] The closure of South Africa's Embassy in New Zealand presents a new threat to this country's attempts to gain acceptance by the international community.

Try as he may, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha has failed in trying to underplay the political significance of his shattering diplomatic setback.

The facts is that more and more countries are going to follow New Zealand's example especially when that country convinces fellow members of the commonwealth of nations that this is an effective way to isolate the country internationally.

New Zealand's example — coming in the wake of massive government propaganda attempts to convince the world that its new constitutional dispensation heralds a new era — is indicative of a new attitude gaining momentum in other parts of the world. The feeling now is that the new constitution is not what the world was hoping for.

To "colonise" Coloureds and Indians, and bring them into the mainstream of implementing apartheid, will not fool the world.

The answer — as we have consistently stated in this paper — is for the government to realise that black people, like everybody else, will have to be brought into the decision-making machinery of their country.

The only guarantee against discrimination and humiliation is to acquire full citizenship rights, in which we decide the future of this country in terms of our own aspirations.

Any other system or permutation that the Government is gambling with will not bring about stability internally, nor respect internationally.

We repeat our call for a national convention in which all the people of our country, irrespective of colour and ideology, work out a new political dispensation for South Africa.

It is the only way out — our only guarantee of lasting peace and prosperity for all South Africans, irrespective of race, colour or creed.

Paper Reports New Evidence of KGB Computer Smuggling

MB051025 Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 5 Aug 84 p 1

[By Dave Beattie in Johannesburg and Gherhard Pieterse in New York]

[Text] The South African and United States customs departments have stepped up their investigation into a suspected KGB-sponsored computer smuggling operation with links in at least four countries.

A U.S. Commerce Department spokesman said this week new evidence had come to light. And a spokesman for the Department of Commerce and Industries in Pretoria told the *SUNDAY EXPRESS* the investigations were so sensitive that no details could be released.

The affairs of four South Africans and eight South African firms, reported to have been part of the channelling operation to the Soviet Union, have been under investigation since November last year.

All are on a U.S. Government blacklist prohibiting them — for the duration of the inquiry — from receiving high-technology equipment from the U.S.

The four people, Dr Athol Harrison, Dr Christo Viljoen, Mr Clive Whitton and Mr Manfred Schroder, all of Cape Town, and the eight firms were all in involved, wittingly or unwittingly, in a scheme run by suspected KGB operative Mr Richard Mueller, according to the U.S. Commerce Department.

The investigation follows the discovery in Sweden and Germany last year of highly-sophisticated U.S.-made Vax computer parts being shipped to Russia.

In a report, the U.S. Commerce Department said Mr Mueller, a West German businessman, set up a front of at least seven other companies in the Cape Town area last year to disguise his control of Microelectronics Research Institute (Pty), the main company.

The MRI is reported to have been headed by Dr Harrison.

A senior official from the SA Commerce and Industries Department said Dr Viljoen, an electronics engineer, had been cleared of complicity.

He said it was likely the other three people had also merely been "used" by Mr Mueller.

A former employee of Mr Mueller said the ban was unjustified and Mr Mueller had no sympathy for communists.

The South African Police are not investigating. The police simply assisted two CIA officials in Cape Town last year, a commercial branch spokesman said.

Dr Viljoen told the *SUNDAY EXPRESS* he was unperturbed by the banning because it was temporary and his name had already been cleared.

He said he had been approached by Dr Harrison to give technical advice to the new company, and had never been paid or received any benefits from Mr Mueller.

Dr Harrison refused to comment on the issue and Mr Manfred Schroder could not be reached for comment.

The companies on the blacklist are Microelectronics Research Institute (Pty), Dettlef Heppner, Act-Com Pty, Computer Add-ons (Pty), Electronica Stellsels Elektronika SA Pty, SEM Investments Pty and Optronix.

Mozambican Tourism Official Heads Delegation in Talks

Calls Discussions 'Milestone'

MB050701 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The Mozambican minister of tourism [title as heard], Mr Antonio Materrula, has described the talks held by his delegation with South African farmers and businessmen in South Africa's lowveld area this weekend as a milestone in relations between Mozambique and South Africa. He and his delegation conferred with farmers on problems affecting tourism, agriculture, and trade.

Expressing the hope that trade ties between the two countries would be strengthened, Mr Materrula said that his government would do its duty in this regard. Mr Materrula said that foreign investment in his country would have to comply with economic principles and policies of his government. Referring to the principle of conducting business on a competitive basis, he said that his government preferred procuring the services of the best firm to encourage competition.

Among the other issues discussed at the talks were the establishment of a customs post and visa office at Nelspruit — about 200 km from the Mozambican border [as heard] — direct telephone links with Mozambique, flights between Mozambique and South Africa, and cooperation in the field of health services. Tourism and investment in Mozambique also came under review.

Mozambique Facilities Upgrade Discussed

MB051032 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] Mr (Johnnie Henn), the chairman of the lowveld liaison committee which held discussions with the Mozambican delegation this weekend, says he has suggested that a joint undertaking be established with Mozambique to upgrade the tourist infrastructure of Inhaca Island in Maputo Bay.

In an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation, he said this could be undertaken with Mozambican companies on a 50-50 basis, and public shareholding companies in South Africa could invest in such a joint venture. He suggested an initial investment of between 5 and 10 million rand, which could also contribute towards the upgrading of four other tourist resorts in southern Mozambique.

RSA Official on Mozambican Ties

MB051156 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The trade representative of South Africa in Mozambique, Mr Colin Patterson, says ties between South Africa and Mozambique should be reinforced considerably soon. Mr Patterson accompanied the Mozambique delegation which held talks with the lowveld liaison committee, farmers, and businessmen in the lowveld this weekend.

Mr Patterson said that for the first time since the signing of the Nkomati Accord, a look had been taken at the practical implications of cooperation in various fields between the two countries. He said he expected real progress to be made soon in the fields of tourism, commerce, agriculture, and medical services.

Referring to Maputo harbor, he said that the Mozambique Government was anxious to see South Africa using it for imports and exports, so that the country could earn foreign exchange.

Pik Botha Declines Natal NP Leadership

MB031211 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has declined an invitation from senior officials of the National Party [NP] in Natal to make himself available for the leadership of the party in Natal

In reply to a question, Mr Botha confirmed that he had been approached and said he appreciated the confidence shown in him. But however much he would like to make himself available for the post he did not see his way clear to resigning as chairman of the Johannesburg region of the NP in the Transvaal and as deputy chairman of the NP in the province.

Our political staff report that Mr Botha's decision reopens the whole question of who will succeed the outgoing minister of finance, Mr Owen Horwood, as leader of the party in Natal. The Natal NP Congress will be held in Durban on the 16th and 17th of August and the matter will then be raised. Other candidates being considered for the leadership are the deputy minister of welfare and community development, Mr Pierre Cronje, and the present administrator of Natal, Mr Stoffel Botha.

Media Panel Discusses Paper's Criticism of Police

MB061520 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1449 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Cape Town, Aug 6, SAPA — An editorial in the *PRETORIA NEWS* on May 25, 1984, caused "irreparable damage" to the South African Police and the "Koevoet" counterinsurgency unit in SWA/Namibia, a police spokesman told a South African Media Council committee in Cape Town today.

Brigadier J.V. van der Merwe told an investigations committee of the Media Council that the editorial had evoked a "feeling of hatred and loathing" by the public towards the police. In order to perform its duty the police needed the support and cooperation of the public, he said. But, the editorial was not based on fact and lodged a drastic and serious charge against the police. It muddled the relations between police and public.

Mr Wilf Nussey, editor of the *PRETORIA NEWS*, maintained that the leader article was fair comment. He said that if there was enough weight in accusations against a certain organisation it merited comment although this comment would not necessarily be based on fact alone.

Mr L. de van Winsen, chairman of the Media Council, presided over the meeting and was assisted by Professor Theo van Wijk, Mrs Alba Hofmeyer, Mr Peter Sorour, Mr Jurie Naude, Mr Ed Linington and Mr Harald Pakendorf. The committee's finding was reserved.

Brig van der Merwe said the editorial was promoted by submissions made by the Bar Council of South West Africa to a special commission under the chairmanship of Mr Justice H.P. van Dyk appointed to enquire into the security (?situation) in South-West Africa.

He said the *PRETORIA NEWS* had wrongly assumed that the submissions by the Bar Council were correct and factual, although the police maintained that these submissions were one sided and in fact rejected their submissions.

In its editorial on May 25 the *PRETORIA NEWS* wrote, under the heading "Mad Dogs?"

"The South-West Africa Bar Council report on the alleged activities of Koevoet is the most damning indictment yet of this shadowy section of the police. Urgent action is needed to make their actions accountable — or even, disband them, so discredited have they become.

"Apart from the fact that the accusations of atrocities against them are rapidly earning us a place alongside the seedier dictatorships, the whole concept goes against our declared counterinsurgency strategy.

"Our military leaders rightly tell us that the way to success is to win the hearts and minds of the citizenry.

"Koevoet stands accused of using those organs as targets — and accused by responsible officers of the courts. It is time this particular unit was firmly leashed and taught the priorities of warfare."

Brig van der Merwe said the police were being accused of acting like "mad dogs" and so-called atrocities were mentioned, but no facts to prove these so-called atrocities were given but only unsubstantiated general accusations.

Mr Nussey said the editorial comment was neither malicious nor made with a dishonest motive and it had taken fair account of all available facts and material. He said it was common cause that the policy of the South-West African Security Force, with and among whom Koevoet operate, is that the struggle against SWAPO can not be won by force alone and that 80 per cent of the campaign is to "win hearts and minds."

The *PRETORIA NEWS* argument is that Koevoets behaviour is contrary to this policy.

Referring to the conclusion of the editorial that it was time Koevoet was leashed and taught the priorities of warfare, Mr Nussey said he regarded it was fair comment and believed that the SA Police should ensure that all Koevoet members abide by the prime function of the SA Police which is to protect the public and not to abuse them.

Brig van der Merwe said that it had become known that since 1980 SWAPO had begun a campaign of disinformation on Koevoet to bring this unit into discredit, because of the successes and excellent work done by these men in difficult circumstances.

Asked why the police had only complained about an editorial in the *PRETORIA NEWS* when most papers had carried editorials and a number were very critical, Brig van der Merwe said the police could accept reasonable criticism but that the *PRETORIA NEWS* editorial was written in the strongest language possible and branded Koevoet as a disgrace to society.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Defends 1-Party Government in Congo Speech

MB061545 Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] President Kaunda has defended the one-party system of government and described it as the best guarantee to peace and unity.

"Some people in the West — mostly our illwishers — have criticised the one-party political system as being undemocratic. We disagree with them, they are looking at our political system through the spectacles of the Western political culture."

In a prepared speech delivered during the second day of the third congress of the Congolese Labour Party in Brazzaville on Friday, the President said the one-party participatory democracy was Zambia's answer to political problems "which our people used to experience. Today we have peace and stability in the country because of the one-party political system".

Dr Kaunda told the Congolese that the multi-party democracy advocated by the West did not reinforce the fabric of democracy in Zambia.

Instead, it brought about the opposite effect. "It did not create a conducive atmosphere for true democracy. It was a recipe for violent conflicts and, therefore, of instability."

There were many reasons why the multi-party system had failed in Third World countries, especially in Africa. These included the fact that many of these countries were just evolving. They were composed of many ethnic groups.

"In such societies, you need a strong political system that engenders unity. You do not need a political system that has a tendency to reinforce ethnic divisions."

The other reasons for the failure of Western multi-party democracy in the Third World was that political parties in this region tended to be formed along tribal lines, emphasising tribal loyalties instead of galvanising national loyalty. Some of them were even formed as instruments of foreign powers.

Turning to Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the Congolese leader, Dr Kaunda said:

"Comrade President, this is why very few countries in Africa were stable following their independence.

"Instead of dealing with national issues, political parties tended to emphasise group interests. In this way, the countries suffered both political and economic stagnation. This suited foreign powers who continued to exploit the people."

The President who was accompanied to Brazzaville by his wife for a three-day state visit and attend the congress at the new conference centre said:

"They say that the taste of the pudding is in the eating. We who have practised one-party political systems know for a fact that we are more stable today than we were during the multi-party system.

"We know that there is more freedom in the Party today than ever before. Above all, we know that the effort of people is now not dissipated on political bickering but on real issues of national development."

But Dr Kaunda cautioned that no country became peaceful and stable merely by declaring a one-party system of government.

Peace and stability depended on the commitment of the leadership and that of each member of the party and the entire population to work hard together.

"I'm sure it's your experience as much as it is ours in Zambia that tribal divisive forces do not necessarily disappear by the mere fact that the state has adopted a one-party political system.

"They do not because there continues to be evil forces which the leadership of the party and true committed members of the party must constantly guard against."

One of the advantages of the system was that it provided a forum for the peaceful resolutions to contradictions.

"The issues are discussed as in a family."

He deplored disunity in any country and described it as a scourge of many African nations today. "It is this cancer that is the root cause of instability in many of our countries and it is through this weakness that our enemies have come to destabilise us."

The President called on UNIP [Zambian United National Independence Party] and the Congolese Labour Party to consider the question of unity in their respective countries as their priority.

"If there is unity in each of our countries, we shall be strong as individual nations and our strength will be a positive contribution to the strength of the Organisation of African Unity."

Dr Kaunda congratulated Col Nguesso for the success his people, through their party, had scored in all fields of human endeavour.

He urged UNIP and the Congolese party to address themselves to the problems of racism, colonialism, ignorance, corruption and exploitation of man by man.

He emphasised on hard work by both Zambians and the Congolese to develop their countries.

The President returned home yesterday afternoon.

Editorial Hails Campaigns for 1-Party Rule

MB061555 Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Jul 84 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] We make no bones about the fact that we are apologists for and adherents of the concept of the one-party system of government in the Third World, more so in emergent Africa.

Zambians know too well that had it not been for the foresight of President Kaunda to introduce the one-party participatory democracy through positive persuasion, the nation would still be riddled by factional, regional and tribal conflicts which were the order of the day when there were small and selfish-oriented political groupings masquerading as oppostion to UNIP [United National Independence Party].

Today Zambia is stable and peaceful politically; the more reason why the people are able to face and tackle the economic difficulties with collective and pragmatic responsibility.

It is true almost every African state which has done away with the multi-party system is enjoying peace.

The few that do not are partly due to the fact that their ruling parties are either distant from the people or are poorly organised. A strong people's party will not fail.

But in all cases there are political problems in countries with more than one party — Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Uganda and Nigeria to name a few.

Farther afield Third World countries in the Latin and South America, Europe and Asia which have opted to retain the "western democracy" are constantly in danger.

Multi-party system fit the developed world because their communities are well advanced and have no cleavages to tribe, race, religion or ancestry. But the multi-party system is a luxury in Africa; it has therefore no place.

As President Kaunda stated when he addressed his hosts in Congo, the multiplicity of political parties in young nations can only breed ethnic leaning instead of strengthening national unity and concentrating on economic development.

For example, before Congo become a one-party state under the Congolese Workers Party [as published] it was torn into many and diversionary cliques which made progress in any aspect of life unattainable.

The story is the opposite today. Congo is a dynamic country forging ahead in many fields of human activity, thanks to luminary President Nguesso and his leadership.

Our word to those facing problems brought about by "oppositions" is not to impose the single party system but to carry out an educational campaign to convince the masses that it is the surest way to not only national unity but more so to sustained progress.

Lesotho's Moshoeshoe II Visits To Open Show

Met by Kaunda

MB031354 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho has arrived in the country to officially open this year's Zambia Agricultural Show in Lusaka tomorrow. The king was welcomed by his excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, and other senior national leaders as well as members of the diplomatic corps, amid pomp and splendor, at Lusaka's International Airport today.

King Moshoeshoe is expected to return to Lesotho on Sunday.

Lesotho's Antiapartheid Stand Praised

MB031834 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Excerpt] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, today commended the Kingdom of Lesotho for courageously standing up against South Africa's racial policies despite pressure from Pretoria. Dr Kaunda was speaking when visiting King Moshoeshoe II called on him at State House. The president said the manner in which Lesotho had stood against the abominabale policies of South Africa was amazing, and a great source of inspiration to Zambia and other African countries.

Zambia was aware that Lesotho was completely surrounded by South Africa, and that due to lack of resources most of her people were forced to go and seek employment in South Africa. Dr Kaunda described Lesotho's stand as principled.

Kaunda Speaks at Dinner

MB050721 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda says Africa's future is bright despite problems. Speaking at a dinner he hosted at State House in honor of visiting King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho, Dr Kaunda expressed optimism that Africa would overcome her problems in the long run, though they may seem insurmountable.

The president urged fellow African leaders to learn a lesson from the present nagging problems. In reference to the Lesotho monarch, Dr Kaunda said he had great admiration for King Moshoeshoe and his leadership of the Kingdom.

In reply, King Moshoeshoe said Lesotho found enormous inspiration in the Zambian leader. He described President Kaunda as one of Africa's leading statesmen. King Moshoeshoe is due to fly back home today. Yesterday he officially opened the 58th Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show in Lusaka.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Discusses Central Committee Election

MB061247 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has outlined four ways by which members of the Central Committee of ZANU-PF will be elected during the national congress which begins in Harare on Wednesday. Speaking on Zimbabwe television last night, Comrade Mugabe said the first category will consist of members elected by the women deputies of the party, who will be presented to congress for approval. The second category will be four nominees from the each of the provinces, and out of these the congress will choose two from each province. The third stage will be members chosen on the basis that they stood for the nation as a whole, and the fourth category of 10 members will be persons which will be nominated by the president of the party.

Over 15 Nominees Dropped

MB061824 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The ZANU-PF national organizing secretary, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, says more than 15 candidates nominated to the party's Central Committee by the provinces have been dropped from the final list. Comrade Nyagumbo told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Service that the candidates were dropped during a Central Committee meeting under the chairmanship of the ZANU-PF president, Comrade Robert Mugabe, today. The names of the candidates dropped will be announced later.

The meeting was also discussing the leadership code and many other issues in preparation for the forthcoming second congress.

Mugabe Blames UK Aid Program for Resettlement Delays

MB060842 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0817 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Harare, Aug 6, SAPA — Zimbabwe's resettlement scheme has not been as successful as the government would have wanted, according to the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe.

He said complications in the British aid programme were causing the delays in resettlement.

Interviewed on the Zimbabwe television programme The Nation, last night, he said the requirements in accordance with the British aid system were that Zimbabwe bought the land using its own money first and British aid would come afterwards and only meet it half way. Britain would refund only 50 per cent of what would have been used.

"But we haven't got the money with which to buy the land. We want to use whatever resources we have for purposes of developing the land — of developing our country generally," he said.

Zimbabwe regarded it as a British responsibility to "redeem" itself from the situation that British imperialism and colonialism had imposed on the country.

The alternative would have been to nationalise the land, but Zimbabwe had tried to be as "gentlemanly" in its behaviour as possible and to act within the Constitution. However, there were limits to which this could continue, he said.

He had discusssed this matter with the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Banana Addresses Parliamentarians' Dinner

MB040656 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Text] Parliamentarians have been urged to complement the efforts of the United Nations and the OAU in addressing themselves to global issues such as the Namibian independence question, the Middle East, and Central America, where human rights are at stake. The call was made by the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, when he addressed a joint dinner of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the Union of African Parliaments in Harare yesterday.

Comrade Banana encouraged parliamentarians to work relentlessly towards eliminating divisive tendencies and practices based on parochialism which is bedeviling the entire world community. He noted that narrow minds by some parliamentarians towards international problems has been detrimental to world peace, security, and cooperation.

Comrade Banana called for concerted effort to bring about an equitable social, economic, and political order which ranks moral considerations ahead of political and material gain.

Foreign Delegates to Congress, Diplomats Arrive

MB061828 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Foreign delegates continue to arrive in Harare for the ZANU-PF Second Congress. This afternoon, a 3-man delegation from the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi Party of Tanzania was met at the airport by the minister of trade and commerce, Comrade Richard Hove. The delegation is led by Comrade Andrew Shida, a member of the Central Committee of Chama Cha Mapinduzi and National Executive member, and also regional party secretary for Dar es Salaam.

The Angolan delegation also arrived this afternoon. It is led by Comrade Pascoal Luvualu, a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the MPLA workers' party. Another arrival was Comrade Roque Rodrigues from East Timor, and Comrade M. Veloso of the Portuguese Communist Party.

Zimbabwe's high commissioners and ambassadors from more than 40 diplomatic missions abroad arrived at the weekend.